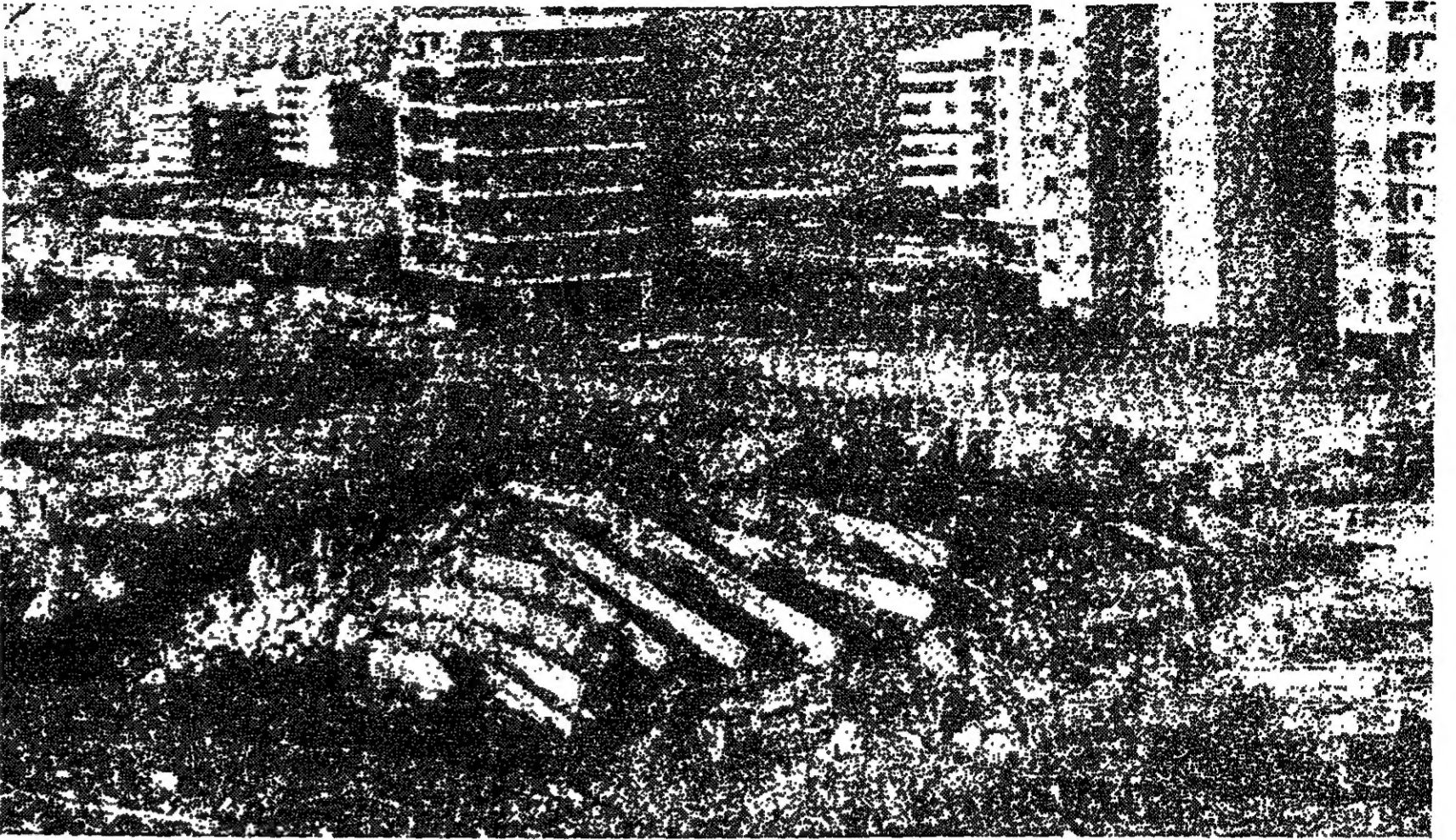


Beirut bomb toll soars towards 200



All that remains of the 10-storey building occupied by the French peace-keeping force. At least 27 paratroopers died in the explosion.

● The death toll in the dawn bombing of American and French troops in Beirut last night headed towards 200; at least 160 are known dead, with many still buried under the rubble and others badly injured in hospitals.

● Mr Caspar Weinberger, the United States Defence Secretary, said evidence pointed to Iran being responsible, and hinted at retaliation once the attackers' identity was confirmed.

● President Reagan led Western leaders in condemning the bombing as "a despicable act" but emphasized that it would not alter his commitment to Lebanon.

● Continuing commitment to the peacekeeping force was also expressed by France and Italy, but Britain said it may have to review the position.

Suicide trucks hit US and French HQs

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

American diplomats and Marine commanders in Beirut believe that Syria as well as Iran was behind the mass slaughter of more than 160 American and French troops in the Lebanese capital yesterday by suicide bombers who drove 4,000lb of explosives into two military headquarters of the multinational force.

The men responsible - both of whom smashed their way into the military compounds with lorries carrying huge bombs - are thought to be Lebanese Shia Muslims belonging to an extremist faction of the Amal militia based in Syrian-occupied eastern Lebanon. The Americans blamed the same group for an almost identical attack against the American Embassy here last April, which left 62 people dead.

By last night the bodies of at least 135 American Marines - by far the greatest loss of life suffered by American military forces since the Vietnam war - had been dragged from beneath hundreds of tons of concrete that collapsed on top of them when the first bomb went off at 6.20 yesterday morning.

At least 26 French paratroopers were killed at their company headquarters four miles away in the southern suburbs of Beirut.

With murderous precision the bombers set off their explosives just 20 seconds apart, in what was clearly a meticulously planned and executed assault against both the international army in Beirut and the dwindling prestige of the Lebanese Government.

The bombings have poisoned the atmosphere for the Lebanese reconciliation talks,

which are due to open in Geneva in a week's time.

Mr Walid Jumblatt, the Druze leader who has been demanding the withdrawal of the multinational force from Beirut, condemned the massacre of the American and French troops as "tragic attacks", but the Libyans, who have given substantial supplies of arms to Jumblatt's militia in their war against the Lebanese authorities, described the bombings as "courageous actions undertaken by nationalistic forces in Lebanon".

Responsibility for the two blasts was claimed by the previously unknown Free Islamic Revolutionary Movement. Two of its fighters, Abu Mazen, aged 26, and Abu Sijana, 24, had died in the attacks. It would not rest until Beirut was under control of "revolutionary Muslims and the combative democratic youth", AFP was told.

The Syrians, who encouraged the creation of the Amal faction in Lebanon, reported the attacks on their government-controlled radio and television without comment.

Only the previous day, however, Syria warned that it was prepared to use rockets - presumably its new Soviet-made SS21s - against American vessels supporting the multinational force if President Reagan tried to "terrorize" Syria.

Although they lack any substantial evidence - and while Syria is certain to deny any such charges - American military officers are convinced that only the Syrian intelligence service would be skillful enough

Continued on back page, col 4



US Marines carrying a badly-wounded comrade from the command centre

Despicable act, says Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan condemned the bomb attack on the US Marine headquarters in Beirut as a "despicable act" yesterday, but made it clear that the deaths of the servicemen would not alter his commitment to keep American peace-keeping forces in Lebanon.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, who had opposed sending the Marines, also emphasized that the 1,600-strong force would stay in Beirut, saying "We cannot simply walk away".

Mr Weinberger said that "circumstantial evidence" pointed to Iran being behind the bombing, but he also made it clear that Soviet involvement could not be ruled out. He added that the immediate concern of the US was how the American and other contingents of the multinational peace-keeping force could be made less vulnerable to similar attacks in the future.

Mr Weinberger also indicated that the US was considering taking retaliatory action once the identity of the attackers was

ON PAGES 6 and 7

Grief-stricken Marines
British troops review
International outrage

Leading article 15
More photographs back page

confirmed. US sources said that if Iranian complicity is proved, the US could respond by openly siding with Iraq in the Iran-Iraq war or else instigate covert operations against Iran.

President Reagan, whose weekend had already been interrupted by a gunman who tried to break into the golf club at Augusta, Georgia, where he was a guest of Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, was awakened with the news of the bombing at 2.30 am.

Five hours later he flew back to Washington where he presided over an emergency meeting of his National Security Council.

At that meeting were Vice-President George Bush, Mr Weinberger, Mr Shultz, Mr

Robert McFarlane, the National Security Adviser, General John Vessey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Paul Kelley, commandant of the Marine Corps, Mr John Mahon, Deputy Director of the CIA, and top White House aides.

Mr Shultz cancelled a trip he was due to make to El Salvador and Brazil because of the bombing.

On his arrival by helicopter on the lawn of the White House Mr Reagan expressed his sorrow and grief.

"There are no words that can properly express our outrage and I think the outrage of all Americans at this despicable act, following as it does the one perpetrated several months ago that took the lives of scores of people at our embassy in that same city, Beirut."

The President was referring to a similar suicide car bomb attack last April that destroyed the US Embassy in Beirut, killing 63 people, of whom 17 were Americans.

Continued on back page, col 1

Callaghan urges closer Soviet links

Britain should become "more active" in its diplomatic contacts with the Soviet Union, former Labour Prime Minister Mr James Callaghan says in *The Times* today, commenting on a recent visit to Moscow.

After talks with Soviet leaders including Foreign Minister Mr Andrei Gromyko, Mr Callaghan concludes: "For the West to denounce publicly their leaders as evil men is not sufficient foundation for an effective western foreign policy. And as neither President Reagan nor Mrs Thatcher have any intention of launching a war to remove the system, they had better start to devise a less simplistic approach to regulating East-West relations in a highly dangerous world."

He says he found that Soviet leaders talked in private with "an absence of vitriol or ideology" and that both sides should be ready to convene fresh talks on intermediate-range missiles in Europe even if there is a pause or freeze after the deployment of cruise missiles.

Let's be realistic, page 14

New Police Bill concessions

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Independent assessors will for the first time supervise the investigation of complaints against the police, under the terms of the revised Police and Criminal Evidence Bill to be published on Thursday.

The Bill will also require all police questioning of suspects to be tape-recorded. Unrecorded evidence will not be admissible in court.

These two major changes in the Government's proposals are among several made by Mr Leon Brittan, who took over as Home Secretary from Lord Whitelaw in June.

The main stop-and-search provisions of the Bill, which fell at the dissolution of Parliament, will be retained. Nor will there be any change in the powers to allow a person suspected of a serious arrestable offence to be detained in police custody without charge for up to 96 hours

subject to magistrates' warrants.

As a further step, which ministers hope will reduce public anxiety about extending police powers to stop and search, the Government will also on Thursday publish White Paper proposals to remove the power of prosecution from the police in England and Wales.

It is believed they have opted for a national system of public prosecutors centrally employed and funded, as recommended by a Home Office working party. It would follow the lines of the existing Scottish system.

Much of the opposition to the Bill debated in the last Parliament was based on the inability of the Government to say when independent prosecution and the recording of evidence would be established.

Experimental recording has been done by several police

forces for some time, but the Home Office is still unable to say when forces throughout the country will be equipped and ready to make the practice general and no commitment date will be in the revised Bill.

The changes proposed in the police complaints procedure stop short of the demands of campaigners that lay people should join in the investigations.

Ministers remain convinced that outsiders would be ineffective because they would not get the necessary cooperation from the police.

They hope instead that legitimate anxiety will be satisfied by the appointment of independent assessors, generally with legal training, to supervise.

The latest concessions come after some 300 amendments were made to the draft legislation in the last Parliament.

Treasury seeks energy savings

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

The Treasury, forced to concede defeat in its attempt to cut the value of benefits paid to the unemployed, has turned to the energy industry for savings in public expenditure, a chance that could signal big increases in fuel prices next year.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, has refused to give way to the Treasury's demands for savings of up to £400m in loans and grants to the industry. He must now argue his case before the "war chamber", the small group of senior ministers under the chairmanship of Lord White-

law set up by the Cabinet last Thursday after Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, reported that he was still £1,000m over the £126,400m spending target for 1984-85.

Mr Walker, who has little political sympathy with the Treasury's headline approach to public spending, is certain to argue that a fresh squeeze on the energy industry's finances would jeopardize the Government's inflation hopes by driving up fuel prices, halt badly needed investment and, in the coal industry, accelerate the pace of pit closures which could tip the balance towards strike action.

To the Treasury, determined

to eliminate coal board losses, the £1,100m or so the National Coal Board receives in government grants and loans is a tempting target.

The gas and electricity industries, both highly profitable, pay cash to the Government each year. But the Treasury is likely to use as ammunition the recent report on the British Gas Corporation by the City accountants Deloitte Haskins & Sells, which advocated increasing gas prices to reflect the higher costs of exploiting new fields, to argue that the corporation, at least, should pay more.

Coal prices go up on November 1 by 4 per cent, but gas and electricity prices have been frozen since last year.

Mr Walker's principal companion in arms will be Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, who is not only resisting Treasury demands for cuts of £200m in his near £17,000m budget for 1984-85, but is holding out for £200m to £300m extra.

Three other departments will appear before the "war chamber" to ask for extra cash: education, agriculture and perhaps the Foreign Office, surprisingly, where Sir Geoffrey Howe, the former Chancellor, is in charge.

Continued on page 2, col 6

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Tomorrow

Blowing hot... In the second extract from his autobiographical trilogy, Philip Oakes recalls a brief but happy flirtation with the London jazz scene

and cold Brian Crozier on why Germany's foreign minister is hijacking the traditional US role in nuclear arms control talks with the Soviet Union

Bow... Fashion looks at the use of ribbons in new designs



ties Brian Glanville tells why Hungary can still help England's footballers qualify for the European Championships

Boycott's backers win round

Yorkshire County Cricket Club faces a special general meeting over the dismissal of Geoffrey Boycott. His supporters, angered that the county had dropped him met in a hotel in Ouse, West Yorkshire, last night and collected more than 240 signatures to force the special meeting.

Telecom action growing

The telephone network faces more disruption today as Telecom unions, heartened by their court victory last week, step up the campaign against privatization. The unions will announce a £250,000 advertising campaign to combat the Government's sell-off proposals. Page 2

Millions march

As many as two million people marched in West Europe's capitals against the cruise and Pershing 2 missiles. Joining the protest was West Germany's former Chancellor Willy Brandt. Page 10

Iraq attacks

Iran reported 116 people killed yesterday in Iraqi missile attacks on Iranian towns. Baghdad said these were in retaliation for Iran's recent offensive in northern Iraq. Page 10

Lean questioned

Robert Lean, the IRA supergrass who retracted evidence against 28 people, is being questioned by detectives about the murder of another alleged informer three years ago. Page 3

Health tax idea

The health service could be part-financed by a tax raised by local health authorities. Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, has suggested. Page 2

Gulf Oil fight

Gulf Oil is preparing a defence against a possible \$10,000m takeover bid from a mainly Texan group that has built up a strategic stake. Page 25

Durie defeated

Joanna Durie, was beaten 6-1, 6-1 by Chris Lloyd in the final of the Daihatsu tennis tournament at Brighton. Page 29

Leader page 15
Letters: on justice for police officers, from Mr Eldon Griffiths, MP; on NHS cuts, from Dr N. P. Malik and others; on the nuclear freeze, from Dr J. W. Arries and Lord Mayhew. Leading articles: Lebanon, Resumption of Parliament. Features, pages 11, 12, 14. James Callaghan on the way to deal with Moscow; Richard Nixon's publishing coup. Spectrum: Go home, virgin soldiers. Modern Times: Quiet hours at the club. Mauritius: a three-page special report on an island which is a rare example of racial harmony. Pages 17-19

Obituary, page 16
Mr Harry Grylls, Mr Paul Hardwick, Dr R. E. Smith

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صكنا من الاصل

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

Tomorrow Mr Kinlock will for the first time face Mrs Thatcher during Prime Minister's Question Time as Leader of the Opposition. A great deal of psychological significance has come to attach to these twice-weekly duels between the two party leaders.

They do not matter except that politicians and, one must acknowledge, political journalists believe that they matter. So the outcome affects morale on the backbenches on both sides of the House.

Over the years the Prime Minister of the day has usually established an ascendancy. The only exception to that rule in recent times was during Sir Alec Douglas-Home's premiership from 1963-1964, when Mr Harold Wilson came out on top more often than not.

When Mr Wilson became Prime Minister he preserved his dominance against Sir Alec and then Mr Heath. But once Mr Heath entered No 10 he progressively established his authority over Mr Wilson at question time.

After they exchanged offices again in 1974, however, the advantage at question time was transferred between them as well, which suggests that it is indeed possession of the office that matters. That has been confirmed by Mrs Thatcher's experience. Her ascendancy at question time came only after she became Prime Minister. The Prime Minister of the day, whoever it may be, goes into the fray every Tuesday and Thursday with two immense assets: the confidence that comes from having won the last election, which matters a great deal in this theatrical form of personal combat; and the meticulous preparation of the Civil Service. If he is to win the day the Leader of the Opposition needs to have a very sharp wit and a lot of homework.

Kinlock is best at attack

But he does not have to defeat the Prime Minister often at question time in order to win the next election. Mr Wilson, Mr Heath and Mr Callaghan were all rejected at the polls after dominating Prime Minister's questions, and Sir Alec Douglas-Home came surprisingly close to winning after being frequently worsted at question time. All that is necessary is to avoid being beaten too badly too often at the despatch box.

So, a number of Mr Kinlock's colleagues are advising him to play it cool at question time, to limit his interventions to short, precise, low-key questions, unless he is sure that he is on very firm ground for an assault. Above all, he must avoid the danger of being repulsed humiliatingly after charging in with arms flailing.

It is sound advice. Yet it will not be easy to follow because it may not be compatible with what must be Mr Kinlock's broader tactical approach.

"I am afraid I shall have to show myself very vicious," Mr Asquith, this session, Bonar Law said as they walked side by side in the procession at the opening of Parliament in 1912 after he had been elected leader of the Conservatives. "I hope you will understand".

Indignation will be his weapon

He demonstrated that technique to good effect in his principal speech to the Labour conference at Brighton. It is evident again in Labour's insistence on a parliamentary debate this week on the health service.

Mr Kinlock will want to concentrate on berating the Government for its failures, real and imagined. It is what he does best, and it is what his supporters will most want to hear at this stage. It is much easier for them to agree on what the Government is doing wrong than on what a future Labour government should do.

Mr Kinlock's purpose will be served best for the most part by an aggressive style. Indignation and mockery will be his instruments. It is only at question time that he may find that unexpected attack is liable to hurt him more than it hurts her.

But will he be able to adjust his parliamentary style to suit the occasion? And if he does so, will he be able to satisfy the backbenchers behind him who will be looking for combat?

Telecom faces fresh disruption as unions step up sell-off battle

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

British Telecom unions plan to step up their campaign against privatization of the state telephone monopoly in the hope of wrecking the £4,000m flotation scheme.

Fresh disruption of the telephone network is expected today, as management goes ahead with the dismissal of 18 men suspended for refusing to cross picket lines mounted by their union, the Post Office Engineering Union (POEU) and sympathy action is planned by the Union of Communication Workers (UCW).

In addition to intensifying the industrial action, unions in the industry will this afternoon announce a £250,000 propaganda war aimed at making the Cabinet's sell-off proposal unworkable. Advertisements timed to coincide with the resumption of the committee stage of the Telecom Bill will start appearing in national newspapers from tomorrow.

Boosted by their unexpected victory in the High Court last Friday, when Mr Justice Mervyn Davies ruled that POEU action against the connexion of

Mercury a private enterprise rival to the Telecom network, was a genuine trade dispute and not an illegal political strike, the unions are beginning to believe that the entire privatization scheme can be halted. "What we have seen up to now is just a pincer", one union source said last night.

Much depends on whether management carries out its threat to dismiss 18 men sent home for signing a declaration that they would work normally and then refusing to cross picket lines. The POEU executive meets soon after the management's 12.30pm deadline for dismissal.

As the direct dispute with the post office engineers deepens, I understand that the postal workers' union UCW, whose members man the telephone exchanges, are planning further 24-hour stoppages in support of the engineers.

It is expected that they, too, will be required to sign pledges of normal working. Disruption could spread rapidly throughout the British Telecom network

and into the Post Office, it is suggested.

The first target of the unions' massive advertising campaign is to prevent foreign shareholders if a majority shareholding of the telecom business is sold to private buyers. Vital defence interests could be jeopardized, it will be argued.

The unions believe that City interest in the Government's biggest single privatization measure is beginning to dwindle as their implacable opposition becomes clearer.

Meanwhile, the Govt is coming under pressure from its hard-line political supporters not to give in. The Institute of Directors said: "The large-scale return of British national industries to the private sector and the effective reform of trade union law is fundamental to Britain's prospects for economic recovery. If, as it now seems, the Government are wavering in existing legislation then there is a clear mandate from the electorate and firm support from businessmen for the Government to put it right."

MacGregor set for showdown

By Our Labour Editor

The stage was set for a confrontation in the mining industry yesterday after Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board, refused to be moved from his "final" 5.2 per cent pay offer by union threats of an overtime ban.

Speaking to white-collar members of the National Union of Mineworkers, in Wallsend, Tyne and Wear, he also indicated that the pace of pit closures would quicken as the NCB worked to get output down to match demand.

Mr MacGregor said that the offer was "enormously generous" and would all have to be paid for by the taxpayer.

Miners' leaders voted last week to begin a nationwide overtime ban next Monday unless the NCB improved its offer and undertook not to press ahead with its accelerated colliery shutdown programme.

Hattersley tipped as shadow chancellor

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Mr Neil Kinnock has told his deputy, Mr Roy Hattersley, that he would like him to take on the role of shadow chancellor in Labour's new parliamentary team which he is to construct next weekend after the election to the front bench on Thursday.

Mr Kinnock has decided he wants to move Mr Peter Shore, the present spokesman on Treasury matters, and Mr Hattersley is his preferred replacement.

But he is not pressing Mr Hattersley, who has still not decided whether to remain as spokesman on home affairs, in which he retains a strong interest. He has asked for a decision by Thursday.

If Mr Hattersley does not wish to move, Mr Gerald Kaufman is the favourite candidate to shadow the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson.

Since Mr Denis Healey, the former deputy leader, is thought certain to retain the post of shadow Foreign Secretary, a

new post of adequate seniority must be found for Mr Shore. Although Mr Kinnock does not think Mr Shore has been effective as Treasury spokesman, he admires his talents and recognizes his standing in the party and the Commons.

With Parliament reassembling today after the 12-week recess, Mr Kinnock will tomorrow have the first of his twice-weekly encounters with Mrs Margaret Thatcher at Prime Minister's Question Time in his role as Leader of the Opposition.

The latest poll taken by Marplan for *The Guardian* between October 10 and 12, shows Labour continuing to widen its lead over the Liberal and SDP Alliance from a mere 2 per cent at the general election in June to 17 per cent now. Marplan registered party support at: Conservative 42 per cent; Labour 37 per cent; Alliance 20 per cent.

Sale room

Rolls-Royces fetch nearly £400,000

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

One of the most complete Rolls-Royce collections, belonging to Mr Stanley Sears, was auctioned by Christie's at the Motorfair, Earls Court, on Saturday, bringing in almost £400,000.

Mr Sears, retired recently to Portugal after playing a formidable role in preserving the cars, notably during the Second World War.

A 1914 Rolls-Royce Alpine Eagle Sporting Torpedo was one of two cars to secure the top price of the day, at £91,800 (estimate £80,000 to £100,000).

The other was a 1912 Silver Ghost limousine, reputedly ordered by King George V but delivered after the order was cancelled to the king's friend, Colonel W H Walker, a noted racehorse owner. After it had

been restored by Mr Sears, it was used in several films, including *The Thin Red Line*.

The sale saw a new auction record for a motor cycle, when a 1908 four-cylinder solo motor cycle made £7,020 (estimate £3,000-£4,000). The "Belgian Fabrique Nationale d'Armes de Guerre" was almost certainly the first firm to build a commercially successful four-cylinder and that example dated from 1908, four years after its introduction.

An extraordinary new record for an American Indian textile was set at a Sotheby's sale in New York on Saturday, when a Navajo man's wearing blanket sold for \$115,500 (£75,000).

It is tightly woven in churro handspun in white, indigo, green and crimson. The previous record was \$54,000. The first session of the sale of American Indian art made £297,928, with 11 per cent unsold.

On Friday and Saturday Sotheby's offered American furniture, folk art and related items in a sale, which totalled £1,185,025, with 10 per cent unsold.

The big prices for grand eighteenth century furniture are predictable. The top item on Saturday was \$385,000 (estimate \$35,000-£450,000) or £250,000 for a Chippendale block and shell carved mahogany kneehole dressing table made around 1760 in the Goddard-Townsend workshops of Newport, Rhode Island, for William Ellery, signatory to the Declaration of Independence.

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Whitehall leaks

Union proposes less secrecy

By Peter Hennessy

The top civil servants' union, the First Division Association (FDA), will circulate its members this week with a plan to combat Whitehall leaks by more positive means than "plugging" through a substantial move towards more open government.

In a discussion document, *Leak: Breach of Trust or Open Government?* to be attached to the October issue of *FDA News*, the association reaffirms the impropriety of a civil servant leaking information harmful to security or the national interest.

However, it recommends a new regime for information disclosure of which would merely embarrass the Government. The document recognizes that Whitehall is excessively secretive and argues that if information policy was brought more closely into line with other Western democracies, unnecessary strain on the loyalty of officials would be eased and incentives for investigative journalism diminished.

The FDA Green Paper, prepared by its machinery of government sub-committee and endorsed by its executive, recommends:

● A voluntary code of practice for all governments to observe concerning the publication of the reasons and statistical information which lie behind decisions: complaints about non-observance of the code might be investigated by a specially appointed Ombudsman.

● For an experimental period, the Government should consider a system under which official documents could be disclosed unless specifically protected.

● Speedier release of information and an attack on the over-classification of files would reduce the scope for leaking.

● More frequent and genuine consultation with interest groups affected by possible policy change would diminish the incentive for tactical leaking to pressure groups.

● If senior officials were encouraged to discuss "at least unclassified material on a non-attributable basis with responsible specialist journalists" some of the interest in investigative journalism might be reduced.

In a rare public statement, Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary of the Cabinet and Head of the Home Civil Service, issued a comment about the FDA document through the Cabinet Office press office.

"Sir Robert Armstrong had read the FDA discussion paper on leaks with much interest. He warmly welcomes and entirely agrees with the clear statement that the unauthorized disclosure of official information by FDA members, or indeed by any other civil servants, cannot and should not be condoned and can never be in the public interest. "Mr John Ward, the general secretary of the FDA, said: "The present position on disclosure of information is thoroughly unsatisfactory for all concerned."

"Contrary to popular mythology, our members are not wedded to secrecy. They want to see a greater public awareness of what is being decided and why, but without undermining the concept of a politically neutral Civil Service."

"It ought to be possible to find an acceptable halfway house short of the total disclosure sought by proponents of a freedom of information Act."

Superdogs have their day



Dog fired: The excitement was too much for this champion Merriweather bulldog Halcyon Daze (above), an entry in the SuperDogs '83, "canine extravaganza" at Wembley Conference Centre yesterday.

The two Chinese Shar Peis shown together are father and daughter, Dandy Lion (right) and six-month-old Brush.

All three appeared at the new one-day event which is based on the world of the dog show and aims to "educate and entertain while promoting the better interests of the pedigree dog".

Events included seminars, displays and appearances by celebrity dogs.

(Photographs: John Voos).

Cruise may arrive next week

By Rodney Corrie, Defence Correspondent

The Government is making final plans for the arrival of the first cruise missiles at Greenham Common in Berkshire not later than about the middle of next month, and possibly as early as next week.

The missiles, which the British and US governments had planned for them to arrive on Tuesday, November 1, and Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, was intending to make a Commons announcement that day.

That plan may still be adhered to, but because the scheme has been made public, it is possible that it will now be marginally changed.

The Government is committed to having the missiles in operational deployment by the end of the year, and it is thought that it would like to be able to announce the deployment of the first 16 missiles before Christmas.

If that is not possible, it will be necessary for the announcement of the operational deployment to be made during the Christmas-New Year holiday period.

Europe on the march, page 10

War of statistics

Heated debate over research on exams

By Lucy Hedges, Education Correspondent

A war of words has been waged in recent months over the examination performance of pupils in grammar schools, compared with those in comprehensive schools.

The debate is being conducted in the press between the National Council for Standards (NCES), a right-wing pressure group, and a host of supporters of the education establishment (including lately the National Union of Teachers).

It all began earlier this year when the NCES, which has been pressed hard by Mr Frank Pickles, the shadow Secretary of State, but he has refused to publish the department's document.

The document has, however, been widely leaked and says the NCES study is based on an unrepresentative sample and does not make sufficient allowance for social class.

The researchers had divided local education authorities into one of three groups according to the range of social class within a area.

"The unsophisticated and basically inadequate methods of controlling for background variables and the doubtful representativeness of the sample mean that findings described as robust must continue to be treated with considerable circumspection", the department's statisticians say.

The NCES authors were predictably angry about those criticisms and the fact that they had not been published, which they say, contravenes natural justice. They say that there are gross errors in the department's account of their research. Arguing that their sample was representative, they say that way in which they allowed for social class was based on the department's own data.

They also point out that the department's account was favourable to them in parts and said their work broke new ground. "With a limited compass it addresses a wide range of questions aggregating data from a wide variety of sources", the statisticians say.

The council then applied to the Department of Education and Science for money to conduct more research.

Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State, asked his

SDP chief proposes local health tax

By Our Political Editor

The proposal that elected district health authorities should be empowered to raise part of their revenue by levying a local health tax as part of a local income tax is floated by Dr David Owen the Social Democrat leader today.

He argues that wage negotiations in the National Health Service should also be conducted locally. To the objection that that might be inflationary, with weaker bargaining units causing an upward spiral, he replies that a strong, smaller and more responsive bargaining authority could also protect employment in its area with the support of its workforce.

Dr Owen's advocacy of decentralization in wage bargaining and economic management generally is a central theme in a 5,000 word competition of the SDP's economic thinking which he has written for the current issue of the newly-designed quarterly journal, *Economic Affairs*, published today.

entitled "Agenda for Competitiveness with Compassion", it restates his commitment to the competitive market economy and also to "the values to be fostered in a society determined to reduce social deprivation and poverty".

Dr Owen says there is a case for autonomous, all-purpose regional electricity authorities for England, as in Scotland, and for regional autonomy for the gas industry and the railways. There could be rival groups competing to run regional electricity networks and gas boards.

Describing the present government as "as deeply centralised as its predecessor", he says that the Conservative programme of privatization has little merit where a state-owned monopoly is merely turned into a privately owned monopoly. "Privatization of British Telecom, involving a simple move from one alternative to the other, is no progress."

As franchising were granted to bus companies, with the obligation to cover "social as well as profitable" routes, so licences could be granted to telecom operators prepared to meet social as well as commercial obligations.

Such franchising for the private provision of hitherto publicly provided goods and services was an attractive alternative both to nationalization and to private monopoly.

Dr Owen also proposes the creation of a Ministry for Competition "to bid open public and private cartels and monopolies".

Economic Affairs, Vol 4, No 1, Institute of Economic Affairs, 2 Lord North Street, London SW1P 3LB.

Letters, page 15

Pipe major sweeps the trophies

By Angus Nicol

All the first prizes in the tenth Grant's Scotch Whisky Piping Championship were taken by "Pipe Major" Gavin Macdonald, royal Highland Fusilier.

There was standing room only in the great hall of Blair Castle, seat of the Duke of Atholl, where the championship was held. "Grant's", as the event is now universally called, is complementary to the main annual piping events such as the Argyleshire Gathering and the Northern Meeting. Ten pipers are invited to compete, chosen from the winners of the year's most important competitions.

Second overall came Hugh MacCallum, from "Bridge" of Allan near Stirling, and in third place William Livingston, from Whithy, Ontario. The prizes were presented by the Duke of Atholl.

Body clue to missing wife

The hunt for Mrs Diane Jones, the doctor's wife who vanished in July, switched to Suffolk yesterday after a woman's body was found in woods between Felixstowe and Whitbridge by a beater at a pheasant shoot. The police said immediate identification was impossible.

Overseas selling prices
Australia 24c 25c; Belgium 24c 25c; Canada 24c 25c; Denmark 24c 25c; France 24c 25c; Germany 24c 25c; Greece 24c 25c; Hong Kong 24c 25c; India 24c 25c; Italy 24c 25c; Japan 24c 25c; Korea 24c 25c; Malaysia 24c 25c; Mexico 24c 25c; New Zealand 24c 25c; Norway 24c 25c; Portugal 24c 25c; Singapore 24c 25c; South Africa 24c 25c; Sweden 24c 25c; Switzerland 24c 25c; Taiwan 24c 25c; Thailand 24c 25c; United Kingdom 24c 25c; USA 24c 25c; Yugoslavia 24c 25c.

Selling at Sotheby's

Closing dates for forthcoming sales are now included in our weekly calendar, which appears today on page 16.

Sotheby's

Reluctant supergrass faces questions over murder of alleged IRA informer

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The reluctant republican supergrass, Mr Robert Lean, who retracted allegations against 28 people, is being questioned by detectives about the murder of another alleged informer almost three years ago.

Mr Lean, aged 37, is, according to his wife Geraldine, about to be charged with murder on the word of another informer. She claimed her husband, who was initially implicated by William Skelly, was named by him again on the day he withdrew his evidence.

Mrs Lean a mother of five, said she had not seen her husband since his arrest minutes after telling a press conference how he fled from police "minders" and had been intimidated into making statements against republicans. She said: "Bobby's solicitor, who had been to see him, came to me and told me he was going to be charged with murder. I expected the RUC to do something like this."

Lean had been given immunity from any crimes he admitted but the latest matter is not covered by that agreement. Eleven people, including two leading republicans, Ivor Bell and Edward Carmichael, had charges against them withdrawn after Lean's retraction.

He was first named by William Skelly, an alleged informer, earlier this summer and according to Mrs Lean, he made a further statement after her husband made an affidavit withdrawing his statements against the 28 men and women.

It is understood Mr Lean is being questioned about the murder of Patrick Traynor, aged 28, who was shot dead by the Provisional IRA in February 1981 for allegedly giving information to the security forces.

While the RUC have faced embarrassment over Mr Lean's retraction particularly as he was portrayed as "potentially very significant", the fact that he is now being questioned about another matter indicates they intend to continue with the policy. The fact that he has apparently been named for the second time by an alleged informer indicates that the disruption and uncertainty that the tactic has caused within paramilitary movements will also continue for some time.

Police said they were called before lunchtime to Peeling's Manor, at Halkham, near Eastbourne, where they found the body of the seventh earl, aged 26, lying beside a shotgun.

A police spokesman said there were no suspicious circumstances and the coroner had been informed. The family was said to have been cursed hundreds of years ago after an ancestor made a village girl pregnant.

Last year Lord Craven's friend, Ann Nicholson, who was living with him and their son Tommy, aged six, said: "The curse does worry him a lot."

Earl found dead at mansion

Lord Craven, whose family is reputed to have been cursed centuries ago, was found dead at an East Sussex mansion on Saturday.

Police said they were called before lunchtime to Peeling's Manor, at Halkham, near Eastbourne, where they found the body of the seventh earl, aged 26, lying beside a shotgun.

A police spokesman said there were no suspicious circumstances and the coroner had been informed. The family was said to have been cursed hundreds of years ago after an ancestor made a village girl pregnant.

Last year Lord Craven's friend, Ann Nicholson, who was living with him and their son Tommy, aged six, said: "The curse does worry him a lot."

Kerb crawl cases

A further fifteen men are due to appear before Nottingham magistrates today on charges of kerb-crawling brought under a 500-year-old law, despite protests from MPs and police admissions that a new law is needed.

Freezer boom

Britons are eating more frozen vegetables. Sales have risen 50 per cent since 1979 and last year £358m was spent on 465,000 tonnes of them, Scotch, the farming cooperative, said yesterday.

Dog ban urged

Miss Janet Fookes, conservative MP, for Plymouth, Drake and a council member for the RSPCA, has tabled a Commons question urging the Home Secretary to ban the import of US "pit bulldogs" for illegal dog fighting.



Looking back: These visitors to Hyde Park yesterday were suitably dressed to take part in a Victorian costume competition, part of festivities accompanying the exhibition "Albert: His life and work" at the Royal College of Art (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

Electronic mercy for erring lawyers

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The solicitor's worst nightmare, a trusted colleague milking clients' money, was conquered by a computer on display at the Law Society's national conference in Paris this weekend. It was in an "office of the future" exhibition.

Computer specialists built into the exhibit's accounting system a method of testing a partner's trustworthiness. The program was set up by the Solicitors' Law Stationery Society.

The system first tells an errant partner that he has

broken an accounting rule and gives him the chance to correct it and redeem himself. If he does not the system shows to all who monitor it that he has continued wilfully on his path of fraud. *Mens rea*, guilty intent, is thus neatly demonstrated to satisfy a court of law.

Clients in the family solicitor's office of the future will find him with a visual display unit on his desk. Wills to suit family circumstances and appropriate petitions for undefended divorces will print out automatically in response to

questionnaire answers. A system of passwords, easily changed if you know the procedure, protect a client's confidentiality.

And judges can become more learned by plugging into a memory bank of law reports at Sunbury-on-Thames.

I tested equipment on display by Eurolex to see if it could trace a half remembered case about a tea lady. Immediately, the answer came down a cross-channel telephone link to a screen in Paris.

Catholic schools asked to phase out cane

The Catholic Education Council, the organization which decides Roman Catholic education policy in Britain, has called for the phasing out of corporal punishment in schools. The council's advice to diocesan schools commissioners in England and Wales was welcomed yesterday as a "major breakthrough" by the Society of Teachers Opposed to Capital Punishment.

The society said that previous Catholic policy had been to leave decisions about caning to individual schools.

Video game makers fear slump in sales

By Cindy Miles

Fears are growing among British video game manufacturers that they could soon face the same rapid drop in sales and profits that have affected their US counterparts.

Warner Communications' Atari, which led the video games boom in America with Asteroids and Space Invaders, has recorded a \$356m (£231m) loss this year. The rival Mattel company has been no happier. Its Intellivision division has shown a \$201m (£130m) deficit. Other companies battling in the same market, including Activision and Bally, have also suffered.

Behind the decline is the fact that people no longer want machines which play games only. They want computers which can perform other functions. Thus when the price of home computers fell so did sales of games machines.

But analysts point out that the markets in Britain and the US are surprisingly different. In British computers rather than games machines always made the running, thanks to the low-cost hardware from Sir Clive Sinclair. Although they are still used mainly for game-playing they have full micro-computing facilities.

While the US was working from small business computers down to the home market, Britain was developing both equally, leaving little room for games-only machines.

Yet fears of a big shake-up after the Christmas rush could prove real because although buying habits have not changed, they have matured. The initial flush of novelty has died and people buying games for their machines have now become more demanding. They know what is good and what is quickly being discarded as dross, which could cause difficulties for the rapidly increasing number of companies that might tend to put quantity before quality.

Vine scourge turns into 'non-event'

By Jane MacQuilty, Wine Correspondent

The announcement last week that phylloxera aphid had re-emerged in Britain after 23 years may have been unduly pessimistic.

To date, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, the aphid has attacked only two vines, both in private gardens. One is at Aisle in Norfolk, the other in the outskirts of Swindon, Wiltshire.

The Swindon vine suffered most, with galls on the underside of the leaves and small dark knobby root galls.

The Aisle vine was affected only by the leaf gall and both infestations have been eradicated by the ministry. So far no commercial vineyards have been attacked and it seems unlikely that any will be for the

infected vines, imported from France, went mainly to garden centres and garden shops.

England's vigorous do not normally buy from either of these sources and Mr Kenneth McAlpine, owner of the country's largest commercial vineyard at Lamberhurst, in Kent described the latest phylloxera incident as "an absolute total non-event".

Unlike France, England's vineyards are widely scattered. As the minute and usually colourless phylloxera aphid generally crawls from vine to vine rather than travelling any distance it is hard to see how much damage could be caused.

Even the winged version of the aphid cannot fly any great distance.

Architects 'paid far less than other professions'

By Charles McKean, Architecture Correspondent

Architects earn significantly less than other professional people such as doctors, lawyers and accountants, according to the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) 1983 survey of employment and earnings.

In some parts of the country a qualified architect of five years' experience can earn less than a police constable and half the salary of a doctor or accountant of similar seniority.

Although architects' earnings rose by 8.4 per cent in the past year, their overall income in relation to the rest of society shows little sign of change, the survey says.

The median earnings of architects practising on their own account was only £11,010,

although that figure rises to £15,000 for partners of the larger practices. The median salary of architects employed in private practice is £9,431, and that drops to £8,000 for an employed architect in northern England.

In general, employed architects in public service earn 25 per cent more.

Unemployment in the profession is only 1.6 per cent, but more than 25 per cent of architects in the private sector feel themselves to be significantly under-employed. There is a clear implication that unless work increases the under-employed could soon become unemployed.

Runcie rebukes critics of remarriage rules

By Clifford Langley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, has rebuked the critics of the Church of England's new procedures for remarriage in church, while offering them further consultations before the proposals are implemented.

Addressing Canterbury synod on Saturday, Dr Runcie said he regretted that the proposals have been declared by some to be unworkable "before the documents and directions have been seen".

It was almost impossible to explain to a couple "how the church has got itself into the situation of agreeing to something in principle which it is either unwilling or unable to do in practice". This was his message to those critics.

But he added that he was "far from under-estimating the amount of disquiet which is already felt" about the suggested procedures. He wished the bishops to meet their clergy to discuss difficulties before a final decision was made.

It is unusual for an archbishop to throw his whole weight behind a proposal awaiting debate by the General Synod like this, and it is further evidence that supporters of the remarriage of divorcees in church take seriously the strong body of opinion against them.

A campaign against remarriage has been organized up and down the country since the General Synod agreed in principle to it last July, and there are indications that it has gained considerable support. In the General Synod debate next month they will attempt to defeat the detailed regulations for conducting remarriages, having narrowly failed to defeat the principle in July.

Foxes 'dug out and released for hunt'

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent



Getting the call: The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, talking part in a BBC World Service live phone-in programme yesterday which drew questions from all over the world. Next week's guest on the programme will be the Prime Minister.

Campaigners against hunting claimed yesterday to have photographic evidence that fox hunts break their own rules against animal abuse. The material was obtained by "moles" who posed as hunt supporters while working for the League Against Cruel Sports.

Mr Richard Course, executive director of the league, said yesterday that a series of still photographs showed a fox being dug out of an earth. The fox, he added, was then placed in a sack and released in the vicinity of the West Dulverton hunt as the hounds were being called up.

The incident will be described in detail in *Outfoxed*, a book to be published before Christmas by Mr Michael Heslop, the "mole" whose activities were described first in *The Times* in August. Mr Course said that Mr Heslop had taken the photographs

while with the Dulverton West in January. Mr Course said that film with sound taken by another league infiltrator in 1980 showed people digging fox cubs out of an earth and taking them to the kennels of the Holderness pack, which hunts to the north of the Humber estuary. The releasing of bagged foxes to hounds and the capture and removal from the wild of foxes are banned by the Masters of Foxhounds Association.

The stills and film have been shown to *The Times*. Mr Course agreed that none of the stills showed hounds with a fox emerging from a bag in one frame.

One shows a man with his back to the camera holding a fox close to the ground by its neck. Another shows a man in a field holding an open sack with fox running from him. The film includes a single

panning shot of buildings leading to a closed wooden crate with fox cubs clearly visible through the slats. "This material shows that the vast majority of people who go hunting have no idea what is done by the testifier," Mr Course said. "If they did know they would be likely to demand changes."

Mr Terence Beesley, huntmaster with the West Dulverton pack, which hunts in north Devon, said of the alleged release of a bagged fox: "We just would not do such a thing. It is his (Mr Heslop's) version and his word against those of so many. He came out with us all last season and we took him to be a friend."

Mr R A Bethell, senior joint master of the Holderness, said that he knew of no case of cubs being brought to his hunt's kennels. "We do not do that sort of thing."

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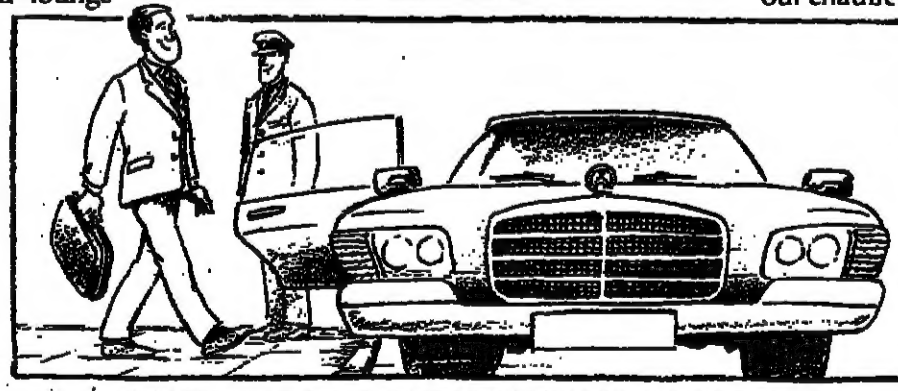
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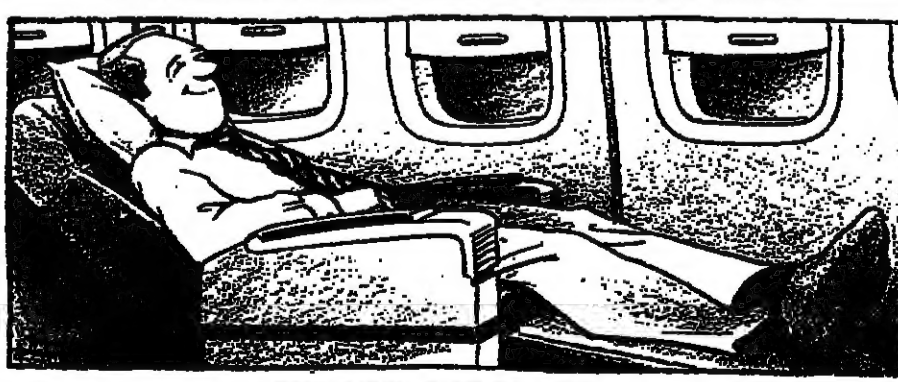
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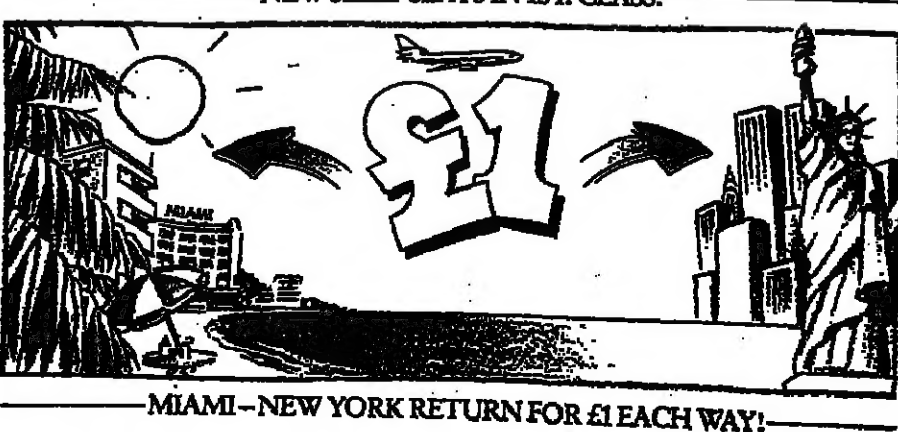
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Dole benefits have fallen sharply as proportion of earnings, study shows

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Benefits for the unemployed in Britain are a lower proportion of earnings than in any other leading Western country and have fallen sharply over the past decade, according to a study by the United Nations published in the September issue of *Economic Bulletin for Europe*.

The report will provide useful ammunition for Mr Norman Fowler, the beleaguered Secretary of State for Social Services, as he tries to fight off Treasury demands for cuts in unemployment benefits as part of its search for reductions in public spending.

The study also disputes the claims of some right-wing economists, notably Professor Patrick Minford of Liverpool University, who believe that high benefits are responsible for pushing up unemployment in recent years.

It says that for most countries benefits are the same or lower in relation to previous earnings than they were 10 years ago. "Unemployment benefits have had little to do with the increase in unemployment since 1974, and especially with the large increase since 1979", it says.

A married worker with three children in Britain would receive less than half his work income if he lost his job, the UN economists calculate. In the United States such a worker would lose a third of his

| Unemployment benefits as a % of earnings for a worker with three children | | |
|---|------|------|
| | 1972 | 1982 |
| Austria | 50.5 | 62.2 |
| Belgium | 83.7 | 67.3 |
| Denmark | 92.4 | 92.0 |
| Finland | 58.2 | 44.0 |
| France | 84.7 | 90.0 |
| West Germany | 70.0 | 75.0 |
| Ireland | 43.6 | 47.0 |
| Italy | 35.0 | 39.4 |
| Netherlands | 70.3 | 69.3 |
| Norway | 69.1 | 81.5 |
| Sweden | 77.3 | 80.2 |
| Switzerland | 75.0 | 47.0 |
| UK | 56.0 | 59.8 |
| Greece | 69.0 | 75.5 |
| Spain | 75.2 | 65.4 |
| Canada | 75.2 | 74.8 |
| US | 58.9 | 63.3 |

previous income, in West Germany a quarter and in France only a tenth.

Single workers fare worse. In Britain unemployment benefit amounts to a quarter of their income in work (by far the lowest of the 14 countries looked at), compared with two-thirds in Germany, nearly three-quarters in the US and nine-tenths in France.

The study also shows that benefits as a proportion of income in work, or "replacement ratios", have fallen more sharply in Britain over the past decade than in any other country: from 75 to 47 per cent between 1972 and 1982 for a married man with three children and from 54 to 26 per cent for a single worker. Elsewhere

replacement ratios are little changed, it says.

But despite low benefits, the cost of unemployment to the Exchequer is greater in Britain than in other leading industrial countries, equivalent to between 11 and 17 per cent of state spending.

That reflects a higher level of unemployment than elsewhere and a heavy loss of revenue from income tax and national insurance contributions foregone. For a single worker, the exchequer loses £3 in taxes for every £1 paid out in benefits, the study says.

Fast growth of young jobless

The number of young jobless is growing at twice the rate of other groups, a report published today says (the Press Association reports).

A 72-page background paper on youth unemployment, published by Youthaid, the independent national charity, says that half of under-18s and one-fourth of the under-25s are out of work. It is estimated that 350,000 of them have been unemployed for a year or more.

The director of Youthaid, Mr Paul Lewis, said today: "It is time to stop blaming young people, and time to start on the harder political road to create jobs and opportunities for them."

Thomas the dream engine wakes up

From Tim Jones
Lydney

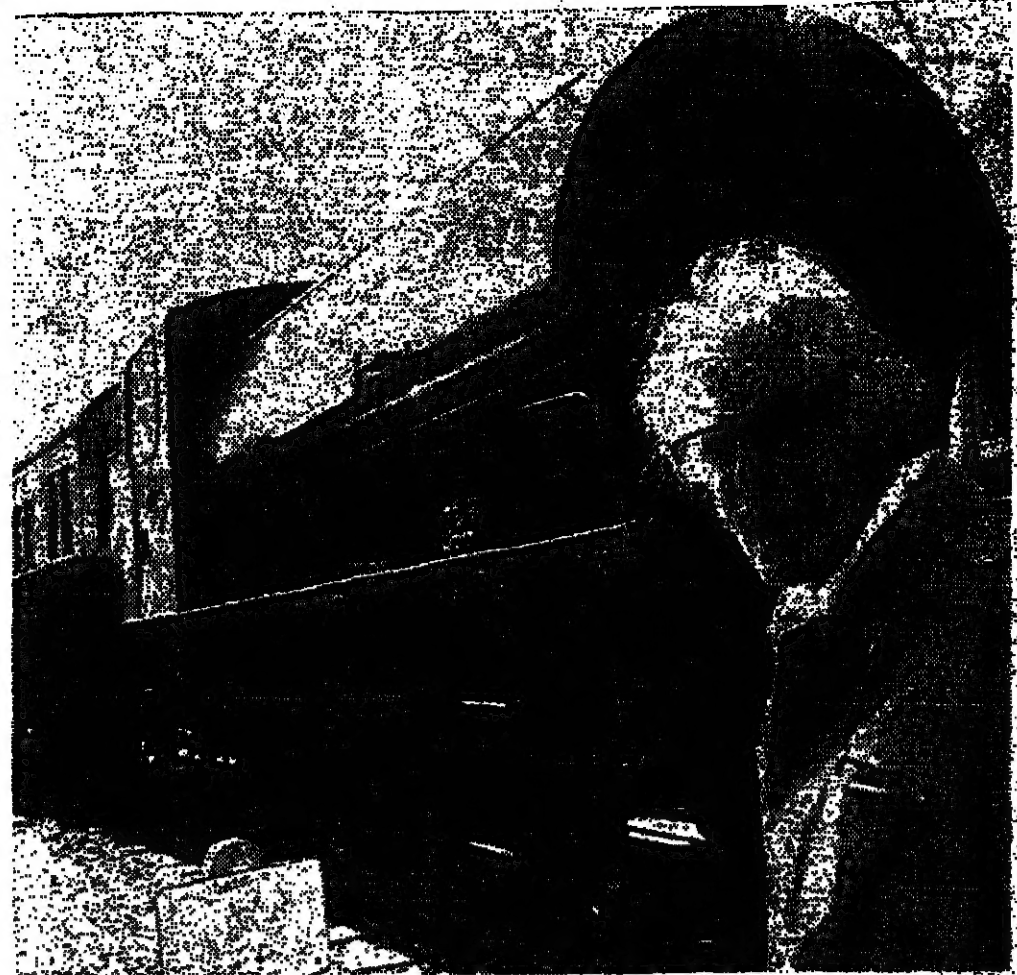
Forty years after the first of his steam trains puffed into imagination of children everywhere, the Rev Wilbert Vere Awdry has taken pity on the host of harassed fathers and mothers who have faced countless questions about Thomas the Tank Engine and his friends.

For Mr Awdry is just completing a history of Sodor, the mythical island where the trains run on time under the direction of a fat controller in silk hat, frock coat and spats.

Sodor, parents will be pleased to learn, has survived the world economic recession rather well. On the island, which Mr Awdry imagined as being between Barrow-in-Furness and the Isle of Man, the resilient industries, thriving agriculture and expanding tourist trade are all helped by a thoroughly integrated transport system. Sodor was the Norse name of the islands to the west of Britain.

It was a bad year for children in 1972 when Mr Awdry wrote his twenty-sixth and last book in "The Railway Series". I discovered that the plots were becoming harder to find and I was losing the simplicity.

He also wanted time to work on volumes such as his *Industrial Archaeology in Gloucestershire* and a biography of J. E. McConnell, the engineer who 120 years ago designed a



Man and machine: The Rev W. B. Awdry on the Dean Forest Railway in Gloucestershire. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

locomotive that could average 30 mph.

Mr Awdry's decision to stop chronicling the adventures of Thomas, Toby, Percy, James, Sir Handel and the others did not of course mean that they had ceased to puff and puff on the island where even branch lines are profitable.

Which is why children of all ages smiled this year when his

son Christopher, for whom the first stories were written, revived the tales with the twenty-seventh book in the series. Age has not rusted the engines nor time diminished the enjoyment they give.

Mr Awdry, who lives in Stroud, often wanders before going to sleep why Anglican clergy have a fascination with steam trains. He concludes that

it is because both parties are still the best means of getting people to their destination.

In the reality beyond Sodor, Mr Awdry defends steam whenever he can. He is a founder member of the Talybarn Railway Preservation Society, the oldest in Britain, and has just become president of the Dean Forest Railway Society, which is the youngest.

Hoteliers fear youth hostel challenge

By Ronald Faux

Hoteliers in the Lake District fear that a youth hostels plan to improve their standards and service will take trade away from local hotels.

The Ulswater Association, a group of local businessmen in the tourist industry, have complained to the Youth Hostels Association (YHA) about a new policy which, they claim, would introduce waitress service at hostels, and increase the scope of hostel shops, allowing them to compete unfairly with outside traders. How long would it be, the association asked, before youth hostels had bars?

The association claimed the new image contravened the YHA's charity status that allows it lower rates and free refuse collection. Hotels could not compete on equal terms.

Mr John Richards, the deputy regional officer for the YHA in the Lake District, yesterday rejected the hoteliers' fears. There was no new policy to make youth hostels anything more than they had been for the past half century. "We still have communal washing facilities and dormitory accommodation, and there are certainly no plans for waitress service or bars." If there was competition, he added, it came from some hotels in the Lake District that were offering packages to school parties that came very close to YHA charges. "I do not know if they are shouting about," he said.

Invisible barrier to progress

Greater role sought for Tory women in politics

By Philip Webster

At the 1931 general election, in the heady days after the achievement of equal suffrage, the Conservative Party fielded 16 women parliamentary candidates and 13 of them got to Westminster.

On June 9 this year, 38 Tory women, the highest total, but still well below the Labour Party figure, were sent into battle. Again just 13 were successful. Only once in the past 50 years, in 1970 when 15 Conservative women were elected, has the tally been exceeded.

The Conservatives' parliamentary female representation is disgracefully low, according to Miss Emma Nicholson, the party vice-chairman with responsibility for women. But paradoxically the figures tend to obscure the influence and importance of women in the party in areas other than the House of Commons.

At the local voluntary level it is commonly accepted that the Conservative machine would collapse without the efforts of women. Women play a big part in keeping the constituency Tory associations ticking over and it is they who in the main organize the fund-raising events that finance them.

Although there is no central record, it is generally believed that the party has as many women members as men. In one typical south-eastern area branch there are 194 women and 178 men.

The invisible barrier to women's progress towards Parliament appears to have been lifted to some extent in other parts of the hierarchy.

An impressive structure exists within the party that enables the views of women on all political issues to be made known to the Government, a crucially important exercise as, according to the polls, more women than men vote Conservative.

Women's committees exist at branch, constituency and area levels. The chairmen, plus three others from each of the 12 area committees, make up the powerful Conservative Women's National Committee. This committee meets four times a year and its opinions are passed on directly to ministers including Mrs Margaret Thatcher by Miss Nicholson.

Miss Nicholson sees her task as getting more women to vote Conservative, more women into the party and more women into Parliament.

"There are enormous num-

bers of women who do not naturally gravitate to us, who should do that must mean that we are at fault in not organizing ourselves properly. We must seek their political views and Westminster."

But the big weakness is Parliament. Women want to see more female MPs but there has been little progress towards that goal. Discrimination is a significant factor.

No one knows that better than Miss Nicholson, who went before 15 constituency selection committees between January and May this year in a futile search for a seat and was told at different times: "We would have loved to have voted for you, but this constituency would never have a woman."

Or "We want you to know that the committee would like you to go on looking for a seat."

Miss Nicholson says, however, that the only way such obstacles can be removed is by more women putting themselves forward as candidates. "We have to do it by sheer weight of numbers. At the moment we are making it easy for the committees to pick men. It is our job to persuade able women to offer themselves as candidates."

Women have their own barriers to tear down as well, according to Miss Nicholson. Many fear that by being forceful, determined and dynamic, qualities associated with becoming an MP, they risk losing their femininity. "That need not be so", she says. "No one shows that more than the Prime Minister who has retained her own femininity and warmth."



Miss Nicholson: "Too much discrimination"

Rates protester on second jail hunger strike

A man who almost died last year after 47 days of hunger strike has been sent to prison again for not paying a rates bill.

But yesterday, after starting another hunger strike at Herfield Prison, Bristol, Alfie Munro, aged 55, accused magistrates of trying to stop him starving himself to death by sentencing him to just 45 days.

Speaking to a reporter during prison visiting time, he said: "I was weak at the start and I may well die within that time. I'm prepared to if necessary."

Mr Munro's 10-year dispute with Woodspring Council in Bristol centres on a shop in South Road, Portishead, which his wife Eileen used to run. When she gave it up the council still sent her rates bills.

She was jailed and went on hunger strike, so the council sent the rates bill to her husband instead.

Press Council criticizes Sun articles on CND

The style and content of an article in *The Sun* criticizing CND sympathisers might have been appropriate to trenchant editorial comment but not a news report, the Press Council said today.

The council upheld a complaint by the Northern Friends Peace Board against *The Sun*. It said the article seriously misrepresented the group's activities by suggesting they were part of a Soviet-financed campaign.

Mr Rowland Dale, of Leeds, secretary of the peace board, complained that the story grossly misstated and misrepresented its work.

The story, about a British peace delegation's visit to Russia, was headed: "CND: is it all a Russian con trick?"

The Sun had said it stood by its right to express its opinion, however unpalatable.

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Golf course assassination threat

Reagan assailant charged

From Trevor Fishlock
New York

An armed man who crashed his pick-up truck through the gates of the golf course in Augusta, Georgia where President Reagan was playing was charged yesterday with threatening the President's life.

He was taken under strong guard to hospital after being taken ill while being questioned by the police. He was feared to be suffering a heart attack and was given oxygen on the way to hospital. A doctor there said the man, Mr Charles Harris, aged 45, of Augusta, showed symptoms of acute anxiety.

Mr Harris had to make two attempts to run his way through the 10ft gates of the course where Mr Reagan was playing golf with Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and Mr Donald Regan, Secretary of the Treasury. There were no police on duty at the gate.

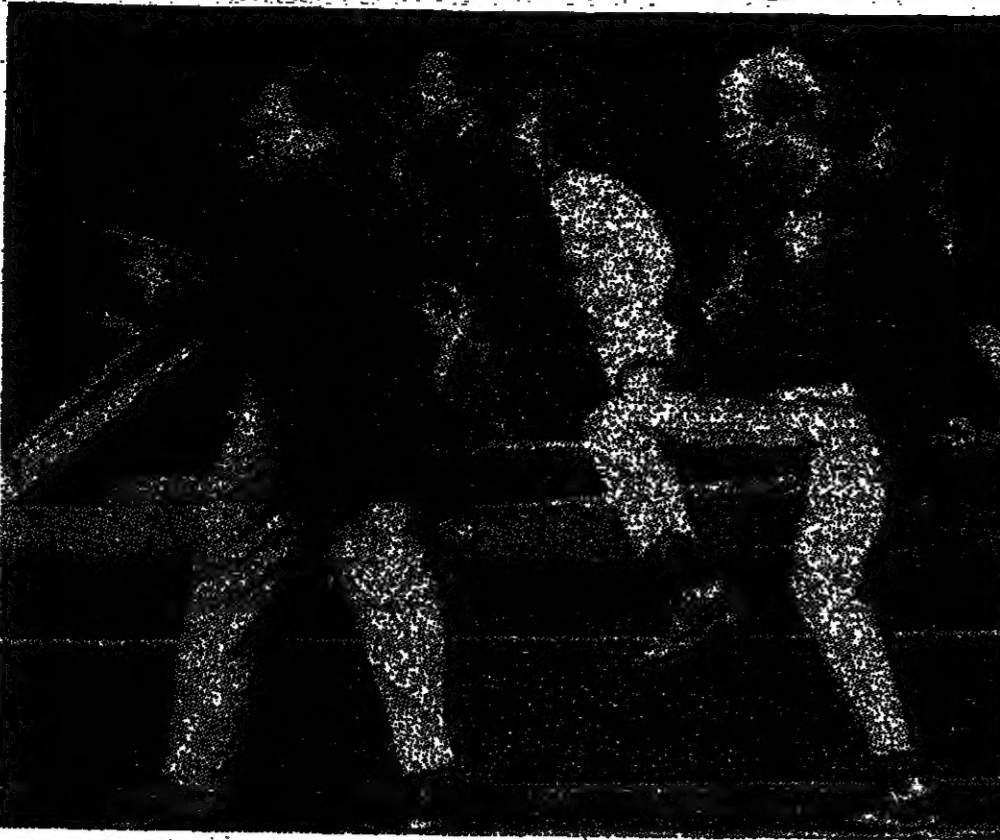
Mr Harris then drove to the shop next to the club house and strode in brandishing his pistol. He took five hostages, including two of Mr Reagan's staff and the shop manager. Two other people ran into a back room and locked the door. Mr Harris fired a shot into the floor of the shop, apparently to emphasize his determination and demanded to speak to the President. He was distraught but it was not clear what his grievance was.

Mr Reagan was some distance off on the sixteenth fairway and was in no immediate danger. When he was told what was happening he was concerned for the hostages and tried to speak to the gunman by radio telephone in an effort to reason with him.

"This is the President of the United States," he said. "This is Ronald Reagan. I understand you want to speak to me."

Mr Harris did not answer, and he did not respond when Mr Reagan tried again. Police surrounded the shop and a helicopter patrolled overhead. Over the next two hours Mr Harris released the hostages one by one and he was eventually arrested without violence.

Mr Reagan left the golf course in his bullet-proof car escorted by 10 anxious Secret Service men carrying sub-



All the President's men: Secret service agents escorting Mr Reagan from the golf course, and (below) a gesture from Charles Harris after his arrest.

machine guns. Mr Reagan in his yellow golf sweater, was calm. A secret service spokesman said that Mr Harris was never close to Mr Reagan and there had been no immediate threat.

Mr Harris's life has been troubled in the past few months. A friend described him as "a mixed-up guy". He had been devastated by the death of his father and had recently been dismissed from his job after 22 years for coming to work under the influence of drink. He was divorced last year.

Friends described him as "gruff, but nice". A local sheriff described him as "a fine man".

© AUGUSTA: The sheriff, of Echols County, Mr J. B. Dykes, identified Mr Harris as a white male from Appleton, Georgia, a small town outside Augusta. Beyond that, little was known about Harris (AP reports).



Njonjo inquiry to open after five-month delay

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi

The judicial inquiry into the death of Mr Charles Njonjo, the former Minister for Constitutional Affairs, was linked with conspiracy to replace President Moi or to overthrow the Kenya Government, is to open here on Friday.

Three judges of the Kenya High Court, led by Mr Justice Miller, who is a Guyanese, were ordered to carry out the inquiry.

By President Moi earlier this year. There has been no explanation for the long delay, but general elections and the formation of a new government were completed only recently.

Mr Njonjo was a prominent and powerful government figure for many years. As Attorney-General he was close to former President Kenyatta, and after Kenyatta's death in 1978 was regarded as a key figure in ensuring the transition of Mr

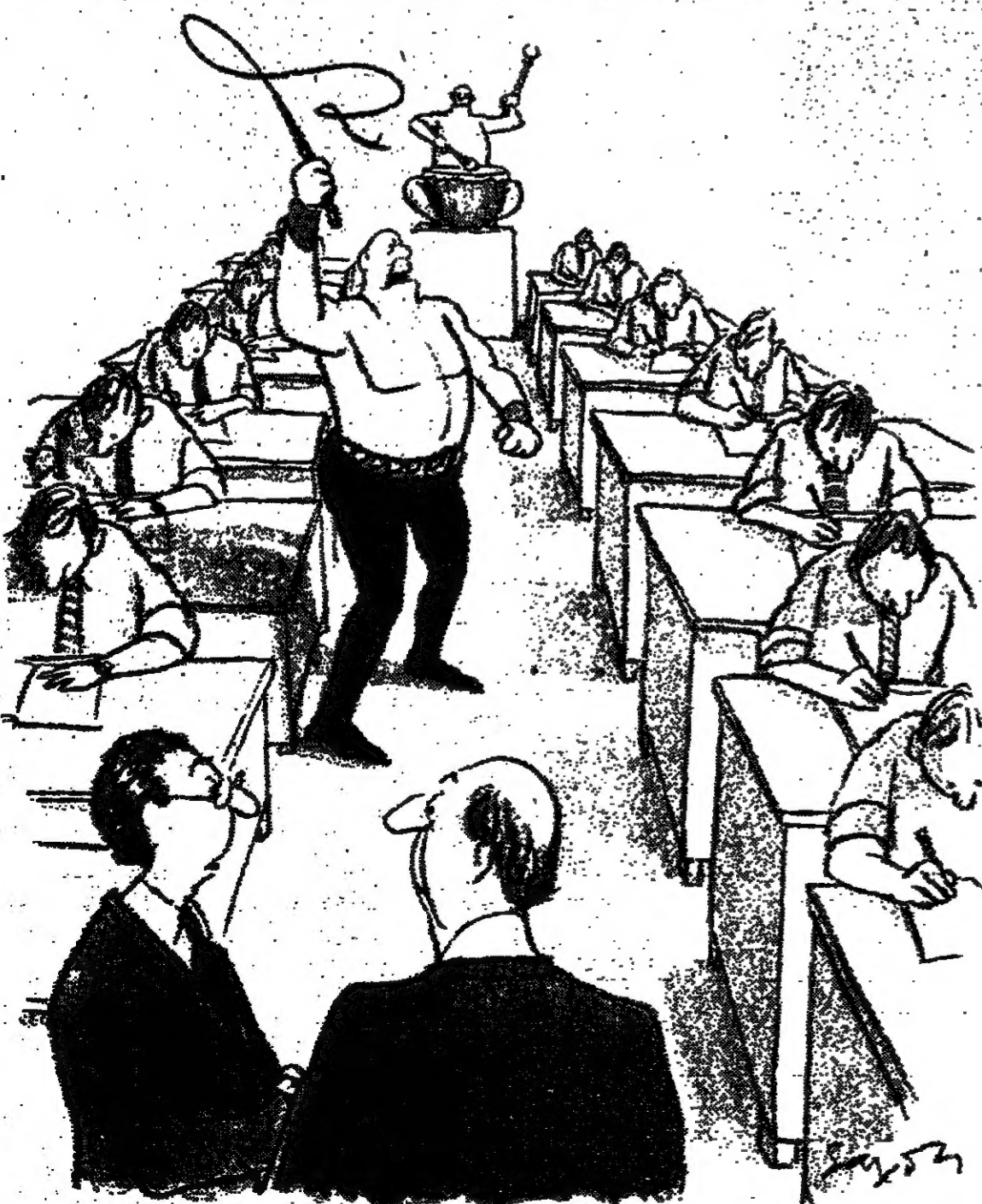
Moi from Vice-President to President.

By last year, when members of the Air Force staged an abortive coup attempt, Mr Njonjo was no longer close to Mr Moi in May the President caused surprise by saying publicly that an unnamed foreign power (which many people assumed to be Britain) was grooming another Kenyan to take over from him. This led to widespread

demands for the "traitor" to be named.

As pressure mounted the president suspended Mr Njonjo from his ministerial post. After he had resigned his parliamentary seat and been suspended by the ruling party, the judicial inquiry was ordered.

The commission's terms of reference, now issued, say it will investigate whether Mr Njonjo sought to undermine the office of the head of state.



"But Mr. Sedgwick, you did ask me to chase up more sales leads..."

Crucial test today for the Israeli economy

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem

The new Israeli Government's efforts to restore confidence in the shattered economy will face a major test this morning when the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange is due to reopen for ordinary trading after being shut for more than two weeks.

Members of the public have been repeatedly ex-corted by senior ministers not to indulge in panic-selling when trading resumes. Efforts have been concentrated on trying to avert a total collapse in the market for shares in the main Israeli commercial banks.

In dependent economics experts have predicted that bank shares - which in recent months have become the most popular hedge against three-figure inflation - will fall in value by about 50 per cent when trading resumes.

Apart from the plight of tens of thousands of Israeli investors who put their savings into bank shares, the banks themselves are estimated to own some £800m of their own shares at October 6 prices.

This means that the future of the domestic banking system could be severely affected by the stock market.

At yesterday's Cabinet meeting, economic developments were reviewed by Mr Yigal Cohen-Orgad, the new Finance Minister.

The Government has received a moral boost for its recent economic measures in the form of support from the International Monetary Fund. Earlier this year, the IMF published a report harshly critical of the policies of Mr Yoram Aridor, the former Finance Minister, who resigned over his abortive scheme of link the whole economy to the American dollar.

Outright victory on the cards for Bjelke-Petersen

From Tony Daboulin, Melbourne

Mr Joh Bjelke-Petersen is within a few seats of governing Queensland alone with his National Party after Saturday's election which saw the Liberal Party heavily defeated.

Counting closed on Saturday night and will resume today but confident National Party officials were claiming that the party had won 41 seats and would pick up another two doubtful, which would give it a majority of one. The party had 38 confirmed seats at the close of counting.

The Liberal Party was annihilated and looks likely to save only seven out of its 20 seats, with only five seats secure when counting closed.

The Labour Party polled well and at the close of counting had 33 certain seats compared with 25 in the old House.

The gerrymander of Queens-

land's state electoral boundaries was well illustrated by the percentage of voting figures. The National Party gained nearly 39 per cent of the vote while Labour gained 44 per cent yet trailed in the number of seats it secured.

The Liberal Party's share of the vote slumped to 14 per cent. The key question is whether Mr Bjelke-Petersen will offer the Liberals a role in a coalition if he gains an absolute majority. He would only do this if he felt he needed the extra security of the Liberals' handful of seats. Any offer he made would most definitely be on his terms.

The results almost certainly spells the end of the line for Mr Terry White, the Liberal leader and the man at the centre of the dispute which precipitated the election.

It was Mr Bjelke-Petersen's

refusal to have Mr White in his Cabinet after the Liberal leader crossed the floor of the Queensland Parliament to vote with opposition which led to the long political crisis which ended with the election.

Mr White said that he took full responsibility for his party's poor showing "no fair minded person would deny we tried, but it is devastating", he said.

Mr Bjelke-Petersen, aged 72, was his usual outspoken self when he described his victory as "the first great defeat for Labour and Mr Hawke in Canberra."

The state of the parties at the close of counting was: National Party 38 seats, Liberals 5, Labour 33, Doubtful 6. State of the parties before the election: National Party 36, Liberals 20, Labour 25, Independent National 1.

£350m profit forecast for world airlines

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

The world's airlines are expected to make a £330m operating profit this year after four years of huge losses, the International Air Transport Association will disclose at its annual meeting in Dubai today. That represents a £480m improvement on last year and a £600m improvement in Iata's own forecast for 1983 made a year ago.

The signs that airlines are at last climbing out of recession is attributed by Iata to tighter cost controls, and improved traffic to many routes.

After improving 1 per cent to 445,000 million passenger miles last year, world scheduled traffic is expected to grow by 2 per cent this year, and 5 per cent a year for the next two years if the economic upturn continues.

But after meeting interest charges on the industry's huge debts, airlines are still deeply in deficit in overall accounting terms, and it will be 1985 at the earliest before they get into profitability. Last year's overall deficit at £1,200m was better than 1981's £1,280m and should be cut this year to £800m. The figure next year should be £500m, and £190m in 1984-5.

Lest euphoria takes over too soon, Iata's director general, Mr Knut Hammarskjöld, says in a typically sober foreword to the annual report that while "some economic indicators give grounds for hope that the recession may have bottomed out, recovery in the near future may be fragile and possibly short-lived."

Judge bars De Lorean TV airing

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles

A federal judge has ordered the Columbia Broadcasting System television network not to air five secret video tapes which purport to show Mr John De Lorean, the alleged cocaine smuggler, discussing drug deals in hotel rooms with undercover government agents.

Judge Robert Takasugi, in an unusual Saturday court session, issued a temporary restraining order prohibiting the network from showing the films and ordered a hearing this afternoon.

The order came at the request of Mr De Lorean's attorney, who said the tapes may have been given to the network by Hustler magazine.

'Ask your doctor about some medicine as there is one that is very effective and safe.'

(Mother and Baby Nov '83)

Mother & Baby

FATHERS: Are we kidding them into substitute rooms?

PREGNANCY: Survival guide for working girls

NEW MUMS: The low-down on pregnancy

POTTY TRAINING: Is your child ready?

PRINCE OF PINK: William's favourite toy

FREE INSIDE: Family temperature chart

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(Motorcycle Sport Nov '83)

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WHSMITH

MASSACRE IN BEIRUT

Grief-stricken Marines search smoking ruins

Within minutes of the two Beirut blasts that annihilated more than 160 American and French members of the peacekeeping force, ROBERT FISK was at the carnage scenes. He sent *The Times* this chilling report:

The bodies of 10 marines were lined up on the ground behind a broken Jeep, neatly laid out as if they were on some kind of parade, their faces covered by tarpaulin sheets, their bare feet, black with dust, poking inconspicuously from the bottom.

One of the sheets had fallen away and the body beneath was quite naked, but still covered in thick dust. They lay there, ignored by the men still searching for the living.

From the curtains of brown and white smoke that rose from the ruins came the heavy thump of the heavy ammunition dump deep beneath the ruins of the American Marines' battalion headquarters began to explode.

A tunnel of fire 20ft high spurted out of the rubble, and when a shell detonated itself across part of the airport, the three Marine guards standing nearest to threw themselves to the ground.

"Get yourselves down," the youngest of them shouted, a boy of only 17 or 18, and it was only when we had crouched behind an ambulance that we noticed he was weeping, holding his rifle in his left hand and wiping the tears from his eyes again and again with his right.

DoWn a narrow path to our left, Major Robert Jordan appeared. Never a humorous man but usually relaxed, he

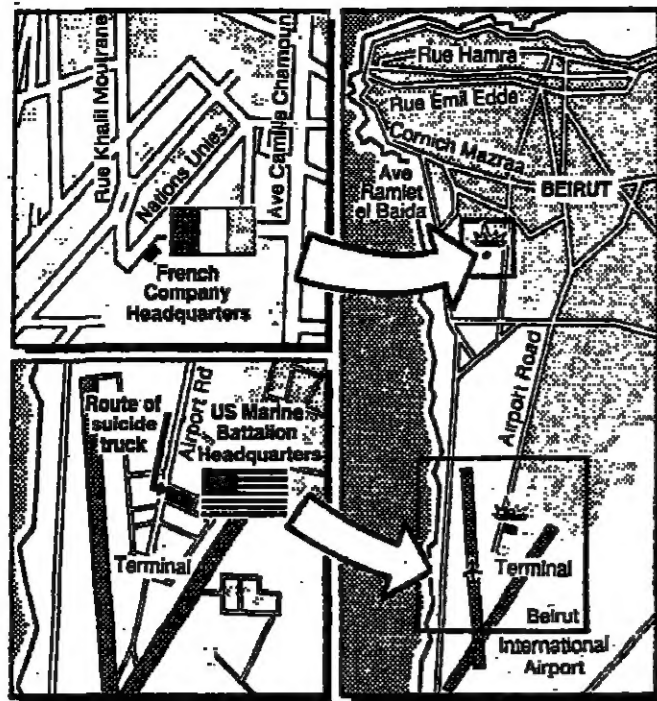
was stunned, still apparently unable to take in all that had happened, crumpling over the glass and torn cement towards us with blood smeared down his arms, on his uniform, even on his face.

"I've been pulling guys out," he said. There were more explosions from the heaps of masonry in front of us. A young Marine was being led away from it, a black soldier whose head lolled from side to side like a doll and whose legs gave way just as his colleagues caught him under the arms.

Major Jordan had no explanation for what had happened, no careful military excuses. "Someone drove a truck with explosives into the compound," he said. "He crashed through the south gate and into the lobby of the building. He detonated the explosives inside, collapsing all the floors down on themselves."

There were more explosions, a softer but deeper rumble this time, and two more Marines were brought out of the ruins, both on stretchers, one with his arm dangling carelessly over the edge, his hand trailing cruelly along the ground through the rubble and glass.

It has been the same at the French company headquarters at Ramlet el-Baida: a gentle hill in the southern Beirut suburbs overlooking the Mediterranean where, the nine-storey building



Map showing where the explosions took place and (right) Marines carrying another body from the rubble.

housing a company of French paratroops panicked to the ground in an identical attack. The French troops had been equally appalled by what had happened, scrambling desperately over the crushed iron and cement in a search for their comrades.

You had to be careful how you walked around the ruins, for the roadway - or what was left of it - was littered with pieces of human body, hands, an arm and intestines.

Lieutenant Colonel Philippe

de Longueaux stood with his arms folded opposite the smoking pile, his face emotionless, his voice a monotone.

"We have found three people who are alive," he said. "There are about a hundred soldiers still under there."

The phrase "under there" was peculiarly chilling for the explosives had been so powerful that the entire building had shifted 20 ft sideways before crumbling to the ground. Where the bomb actually

detonated was now a smouldering pit 20 ft deep.

A paratroop corporal walked up to us. "How many do you think can survive that?" he asked, as if we could provide an answer. "How many? How many?"

Then he put his hand out in a sad, kindly way. "Please be careful where you walk," he said, wanting to show a sort of respect for something that lay on the ground between us but at which he chose not to look. It took a long time for the

shock to disappear from the faces of the soldiers.

It had the same effect on French and Americans alike. Colonel Timothy Geraghty, the US Marine commander, returned from his ruined battalion headquarters grey-faced, his jaw bunched up, his eyes still apparently focused on the horror there long after he had left the scene.

The Americans were dragging tubes and oxygen bottles on to the smoking heap, clambering over cracks in

the concrete while their colleagues sat above them in armoured vehicles to guard the headquarters that was no longer there to be guarded.

The twisted iron gate through which the suicide bomber had driven lay in pieces to the south of the ruins. The explosion had torn away, too, the trees around the perimeter fence, carpeting the rubble and concrete in a premature autumn of dark green leaves.

There were papers, as well, the bureaucracy of military administration and personal life, scattered in their thousands across a square mile - classified documents on super locations, instructions on how to board helicopters, marine white newspapers, letters from home.

One young Marine aboard an amphibious vehicle by the trees had given up any pretence at soldiering. He sat behind his machine gun, shoulders heaving, his head in his hands.

"There's a lot of grief down here," one of his officers commented obliquely. A naval officer took it more pithily, saying when we asked him how he felt, "I was in Vietnam," he replied. "And now I'm here I'm tired."

'We come to give peace and we get killed'

French survivors wept too as they searched through shattered concrete for their missing colleagues.

MONA ZIADE reports for the Associated Press.

"What beasts. What an insane country," yelled a young French soldier as he stood on the rubble of what had been a company headquarters building of the French peacekeeping unit in Lebanon.

The soldier, covered with blood, was helping to search through the debris for scores of French soldiers trapped when the nine-storey structure collapsed after the explosion.

Another soldier, after watching a while from near by, hid his face in his hands and ran behind a waiting ambulance and wept.

Two cranes, five bulldozers and dozens of Lebanese rescue workers, assisted the French troops searching through pieces of broken concrete and dust.

Most of the 100 paratroops were asleep when a terrorist drove a bomb-laden lorry into the building's underground garage and detonated the explosives.

The bombing echoed a blast that occurred just moments earlier at the United States Marine base about a mile away.

General Francois Cann, commander of the 2,000-man French contingent in Beirut, said the bombing of the French post came only 20 seconds after the 6.20am explosion.

French soldiers guarding the site had mixed reactions. Many asked reporters of news from the marine base. One angry soldier screamed at a Lebanese photographer, "We come to give peace and we get killed."

Both the French and American warships off Beirut's coast moved very close to shore after the bombing. A French frigate, the Commandant Fimodan, was only a few hundred yards offshore.

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Britain to review role of its troops

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Government will need to review the position of the tiny British peacekeeping force in Beirut after the latest "gigantic atrocity" in the Lebanese capital. Mr Richard Luce, minister of State at the Foreign Office, said yesterday.

But he was against any sudden reaction. Britain would have to reassess "dispassionately and calmly". Together with the Americans, French and Italians, whether the multinational force could continue to perform a useful and constructive role.

He was speaking on Radio Four's *World this weekend* after Mr Denis Davies, Labour spokesman on defence, had called for a government statement on the future of the British force when Parliament reassembles this week.

Mr Davies said the bombings called into question "not only the safety but also the purpose of keeping the small British force in Beirut".

"We are trying to respond to a request and build up peace and stability in Lebanon", Mr Luce said. "The alternative in this world is that we would just turn our backs on it and not make a modest contribution."

"It is always a difficult judgment and I am sure it is right to say that there is an element of risk. This is something we shall continue very, very carefully now to keep in mind."

Mr Luce, who was in Beirut with the British troops last month, said that their safety was a primary consideration for the Government, and that ministers were concerned that the risk to them should be minimized.

● **BEIRUT:** In the wake of yesterday's massive bombing attacks in Beirut, all four contributing nations will be reexamining why they sent their soldiers to Lebanon in the first place (Robert Fisk reports).

Were they peacekeepers or peace enforcers? And what has happened now to the peace they were meant to keep? Small though Britain's contingent is, it is based only 700 yards from the

American Marine perimeter, and these questions will be asked in Whitehall today as forcefully as in Washington, Paris and Rome.

The decision to send a contingent of British troops to Lebanon was a personal one, taken by Mrs Margaret Thatcher after she met Mr Elie Salem, the Lebanese Foreign Minister, last winter.

His determination to restore Lebanon's territorial sovereignty impressed the Prime Minister, and the first troops of the Queen's Dragoon Guards arrived in the Lebanese capital in early February.



Mr Luce: Concerned to minimize risk.

Ever since its development in Beirut, the 97-strong British contingent - by far the smallest unit in the multinational force - has been billeted in a half-ruined factory in the south-eastern suburb of Hadeth, at first in Israel's area of occupation and then, after the Israeli Army's withdrawal to the Awali river, quite literally in the firing line between Lebanese Army and Phalangist guns and the artillery batteries of the Druze militia.

A Squadron of the 1st Queen's Dragoon Guards is an armoured reconnaissance unit equipped with Mark 2 Ferret scout cars armed with Browning sub-machine guns. They also have Bren guns, Carl Gustav anti-tank weapons and Browning machine guns as well as their regular 7.62 self-loading rifles and Sterling submachine guns.

Who's Who in Lebanon conflict

Government: Led by President Amal Gemayel, a Maronite Christian. Other groups represented, but accused of Christian domination. Army: Tenuous control in Beirut and fragments of Chouf Mountains. Muslim majority in ranks. Christian majority in officer corps. Sides increasingly with Christian Phalangists.

Multinational Force: 5,400 troops from US, France, Italy and Britain, backed by offshore fleet. Bolsters the Government's authority. Maronites: Most powerful community, Western-leaning, with 25 per cent of population. Provides both the President and the Commander of the Army. Fighting force is Phalangis or Kata'ib, including some orthodox Christians (8 per cent of population).

Shiite: Muslim sect with 30 per cent of population. Its "Amal" (hope) militia allied with Druze. Leading figure Nabih Berri, Beirut Amal chief.

Druze: Sect of roughly 7 per cent population, split from main Islamic streams in 11th century. Aided by Syria, Libya and PLO. Led by Walid Jumblatt and Progressive Socialist Party militia. Mountain strongholds. Palestine Liberation Organization: Forces in Lebanon split between loyalists of chairman Yasser Arafat; confined to northern Tripoli area, and Syrian-aided dissidents under Colonel Abu Moussa and Mr Abu Saleh.

Syria: Occupies north and east Lebanon. Armed by Russia. Seeks to destabilize the Gemayel Government.

DESCRIPTION

1 National Savings Deposit Bonds (bonds) are Government securities issued by the Treasury under the National Loans Act 1968. They are registered on the National Savings Stock Register and are subject to the Statutory Regulations relating to the National Savings Stock Register for the time being in force, so far as these are applicable. The principal of, and interest on, bonds are a charge on the National Loans Fund.

PURCHASE

21 Subject to a minimum purchase of £500 (see paragraph 31) a purchase may be made in multiples of £50. The date of purchase will for all purposes be the date payment is received, with a completed application form, at the National Savings Deposit Bond Office or Post Office transacting National Savings Bank business or such other place as the Director of Savings may specify.

22 A certificate will be issued in respect of each purchase. This certificate will show the value of the bond and its date of purchase. The certificate will be replaced on each anniversary of the date of purchase and on part repayment in accordance with paragraph 5.2 by a new certificate showing the updated value of the bond, including capitalised interest.

MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM HOLDING LIMITS

31 No person may hold either solely or jointly with any other person less than £500 in any one bond or more than £50,000 in one or more bonds. The maximum holding limit will not prevent the capitalisation of interest under paragraph 4.3 but capitalised interest will count towards this limit if the holder wishes to purchase another bond. Bonds inherited from a deceased holder and interest on such bonds will not count towards the maximum limit. Bonds held by a person as trustee will not count towards the maximum which he may hold as trustee of a separate fund or which he or the beneficiary may hold in a personal capacity.

32 The Treasury may vary the maximum and minimum holding limits from time to time, upon giving notice, but such a variation will not prejudice any right enjoyed by a bond holder immediately before the variation in respect of a bond then held by him.

INTEREST

41 Interest will be calculated on a day to day basis from the date of purchase up to the date of redemption. Subject to paragraph 4.2 interest on a bond will be payable at a rate determined by the Treasury, which may be varied upon giving six weeks notice.

42 The rate of interest on a bond or part of a bond repaid before the first anniversary of the date of purchase will be half the rate determined by the Treasury in accordance with paragraph 4.1, unless repayment is made on the death of the sole bond holder.

43 Interest on a bond will be capitalised on each anniversary of the date of purchase without deduction of income tax, but interest is subject to income

tax and must be included in any return of income made to the Inland Revenue in respect of the year in which it is capitalised.

REPAYMENT

51 A holder must give three calendar months notice of any application for repayment before redemption but no prior notice is required if application is made on the death of the sole bond holder. Any application for repayment of a bond must be made in writing to the National Savings Deposit Bond Office and be accompanied by the current investment certificate. The period of notice will be calculated from the date on which the application is received in the National Savings Deposit Bond Office.

52 Application may be made in accordance with paragraph 51 for repayment of part of a bond, including capitalised interest, but the amount to be repaid must not be less than £50 or such other figure as the Treasury may determine from time to time upon giving notice. The balance of the bond remaining after repayment, excluding interest which has not been capitalised, must be not less than the minimum holding limit which was in force at the date of application. Where part of a bond has been repaid a new certificate will be issued and the remaining balance will be treated as having the same date of purchase as the original bond.

53 Payments will be made by crossed warrant sent by post. For the purpose of determining the amount payable in respect of a bond the date of repayment will be treated as the date on the warrant.

54 No payment will be made in respect of a bond held by a minor under the age of seven years, either solely or jointly with any other person except with the consent of the Director of Savings.

TRANSFERS

6 Bonds will not be transferable except with the consent of the Director of Savings. The Director of Savings will, for example, normally give consent in the case of devolution of bonds on the death of a holder but not in any proposed transfer which is by way of sale or for any consideration.

NOTICE

7 The Treasury will give any notice required under paragraph 32.4.1.5.2 and 8 in the London, Edinburgh and Belfast Gazettes or in any manner which they think fit. It is not necessary to give notice in the Gazettes, it will as soon as reasonably possible thereafter be recorded in them.

GUARANTEED LIFE OF BONDS

8 Each bond may be held for a guaranteed initial period of 10 years from the purchase date. Thereafter interest will continue to be payable in accordance with paragraphs 4.1 and 4.3 until the redemption of the bond. The bond may be redeemed either at the end of the guaranteed initial period or on any date thereafter in either case upon the giving of six months notice by the Treasury. The Director of Savings will write to the holder before redemption, at his last recorded address, informing him of the date of redemption.

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Signature

Date

Note: If the Bond is to be held jointly all the parties must sign above.

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... AND THE WORLD REACTS IN SHOCK AND HORROR AS BOMB TOLL RISES

MASSACRE IN BEIRUT

A hideously malevolent action, says Howe

From Ian Murray, Vouliagmeni, Greece

"A hideously malevolent action by any standards", Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said angrily when he heard of the Lebanon bombings. He was at the informal meeting of EEC foreign ministers at Vouliagmeni, which he said had been overshadowed by the event.

This serves to underline the price that the West is paying on a very broad basis in trying to promote peace and reconstruction in what are obviously very dangerous circumstances.

The fact that European countries were determined to go on playing an effective role in the "peace-keeping, peace-seeking force demonstrates that what is going on is not an exercise in US imperialism."

M. Claude Cheysson, the French minister, was obviously very shaken. "It is not just painful, but awful," he said. "It is mad. One gives a better

and what their mandate would be had to be settled.

There was similar determination from Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Italian minister, to send the observers requested from his country. He reported that a small group of Italians were already in Lebanon, scouting out on the spot the best positions for setting up observation posts.

There was full support from all the ministers present for the Greek and Italian observer force, although this will in no way actually serve in the name of the EEC, which has no military competence.

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German minister, urged that it was high time to resume the Euro-Arab dialogue, which has been very silent in recent years. Greece, which has been unable to win EEC support for fuller talks in the Arab countries, in its role as President of the Council, is nevertheless sending its Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr. Karolis Papoulis, to Syria and Beirut to explore the possibility of a closer dialogue.

● ROME: President Berlinguer's response was to send messages to the American and French presidents through their embassies here (Peter Nichols writes). Senator Giovanni Spadolini, the Minister of Defence contacted the headquarters of the Italian contingent in the Lebanon asking that condolences be delivered to the American and French commanders.

● DUBLIN: The Irish Government, which has 600 peacekeeping troops in Lebanon, reacted sharply. The Foreign Minister, Mr. Peter Barry, said: "I am appalled at the incident and the extent of the loss of life. My Government condemns this attack on troops sent to help and keep the peace in Lebanon."

● LIBYA: In Libya, a political commentator on official radio called the attacks "a bold operation by patriotic and progressive Lebanese forces" and a direct response to "the billy-club policy conducted by the United States in Lebanon."



The horror: Rescuing a wounded Marine from the ruins. Libya described the bombings as "courageous actions by nationalists".

Hernu flies out with a pledge

From Diana Geddes, Paris

President Mitterrand was in constant touch with Beirut throughout the day, and was also in contact by telephone with President Reagan. M. Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Minister and M. Charles Hernu, the Deputy Minister, sent their condolences to their American counterparts for the even greater loss of life among the American contingent in Beirut.

M. Hernu, who flew out to Beirut yesterday morning said it was too soon to ask about the future of the French forces only a few hours after such an "abominable and cowardly attack". M. Cheysson added later that France was not used to succumbing to pressure, but was asking itself whether militarily its force was necessary.

An opinion poll last month showed that 56 per cent of the public disapproved of the sending of French troops to Lebanon, and nearly two-thirds considered that France's obligations towards its former mandated territory did not warrant the loss of French lives.

Mr Jean-Marie Lustiger, Archbishop of Paris, said: "The ordeal undergone by French public must not lead to a cowardly abandonment of the objectives of peace." It was not enough to talk of "an act of folly and irrationality". One should rather speak of "crime, calculated hatred and the murder of a distant hope of reconciliation".

From Our Own Correspondent Beirut

Israel's invasion of Lebanon last year drew the multinational peacekeeping force into Beirut, first to assist in the evacuation of Palestinian guerrillas and then again after Israel's Phalangist allies had massacred hundreds of Palestinian civilians in the capital.

President Reagan committed 1,600 American Marines to protect the population of west Beirut and to support the new Government of President Amine Gemayel 13 months ago. They were joined by 2,100 Italian troops and 2,000 French soldiers. Britain sent a 97-strong armoured reconnaissance unit to reinforce them last February.

Like most foreign armies in Lebanon, the multinational force enjoyed a period of security immediately after its arrival. Italian troops dated local girls, US Marines could be found drinking in the city's bars and French soldiers could be discovered shopping in Hamra Street.

But when Mr Gemayel's Government began to employ Phalangist advisers and started a series of arrests of Palestinians and Lebanese Muslims, opposition leaders in Lebanon, together with their more ruthless militia followers,

identified the international troops with the Phalange.

A series of grenade attacks and car bombings against French soldiers was a precedent of trouble to come.

Once the Lebanese Government signed its unofficial peace treaty with Israel last May, President Assad's Government in Damascus condemned the Gemayel administration and claimed that the multinational

force was part of a Nato plot to take Lebanon out of the Arab world and threaten Syria.

French and American Ambassadors in Beirut meanwhile pleaded with Mr Gemayel to prevent further arrests by the Lebanese Deuxieme Bureau on the grounds that this contradicted the multinational force's mandate to protect the people of west Beirut.



The despair: President Reagan arriving at the White House. American diplomats blame Syria and Iran.

Three die in clash over Lebanese arms cache

From Christopher Walker Jerusalem

Three Lebanese civilians were killed, a number injured and one Israeli soldier wounded yesterday in the worst outbreak of violence in several months between the occupying Israeli Army and residents of southern Lebanon.

According to the version of events provided by Israel's military command, the violence erupted after Israeli soldiers discovered a large arms cache in a private house near the village of Sarafand, south of the Zaharani river.

The Army claimed that groups of rioting villagers wielding knives, iron bars and heavy objects menaced the Israelis as they attempted to arrest residents of the house. Israeli military reinforcements were brought in.

Details of how the three Lebanese were killed were not given.

Meanwhile, the severity of the bombings of the multinational force in Beirut overshadowed yesterday's regular session of the Israeli coalition Cabinet and prompted one senior minister to hint of indirect Soviet involvement.

Israel radio reported that Dr Joseph Burg, the Interior Minister, said after the meeting that it seemed that what he described as "the long hand of Moscow" had been involved. He also described the attacks as an incentive for a quick return to stability and pacification in Lebanon.

Dr Burg's remarks were interpreted as suggesting possible Syrian involvement in the bombings. Mr Dan Meridor, the Cabinet secretary, referred to an article in last week's Washington Post which he said had quoted Middle East experts as summing-up the latest US Administration's attitude to events in the region.

The Syrians were said to be not interested in the peace process, but were waiting for more Marines to be killed so that the US would tire of remaining and leave Syria to "take over the whole show".

Among ordinary Israelis, there was a widely-voiced fear that the loss of so much American life might prompt the Reagan Administration to withdraw the Marines, thereby leading indirectly to possible renewed Israeli involvement in the area north of the Awali river, to which the Army had recently withdrawn.

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González strengthened by big demonstrations against ETA terrorism

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain's Socialist Government emerged strengthened after big weekend demonstrations against ETA terrorism and in defence of democracy. More than 100,000 Basques turned out in Bilbao on Saturday, and perhaps as many as half a million on Friday night in Madrid.

Señor Felipe González, the Prime Minister, who finally decided to send his deputy, Señor Alfonso Guerra, to lead the Madrid all-party rally, said afterwards on television that, with serenity and unity, terrorism could be overcome.

"We have got laws to combat terrorism, and we as Government do not want to declare

state of exception, as some are demanding".

The unexpressed but clear purpose of the Government in calling the rally, in which Señor Manuel Fraga, the conservative opposition leader, and the president of Spain's employers confederation marched alongside Communists and trade unionists, was to demonstrate Spaniards' attachment to democracy and opposition to those calling for authoritarian solutions to the terrorist problem.

People of all classes and ages responded in Madrid, in a turn out reminiscent of the February, 1981 parade after the attempted military coup.

The big demonstration in Bilbao, where the body of an army captain was found on Wednesday, assassinated by ETA's "politico-military" wing a fortnight after they had kidnapped him, was also important, though the Socialists and the Basque nationalists only just managed to agree on a common front and common slogan.

The Socialists had wanted to express explicit backing for the Army, but the nationalists, in power in the Basque country, refused. The demonstrators marched only under the red and white Basque flag, not the red and gold of Spain.

Spain struggles to sell a loser

From Harry Dabelis, Madrid

The official admission that the Rumasa business empire has been losing about 4.5 billion pesetas (£20m) a month since its nationalization last February has added a new complication to the Government's plans to return the Rumasa companies to private ownership.

The director-general of State Patrimony, Señor Javier Moral, revealed the extent of the losses in the seven and a half months since the takeover, during evidence to the budget committee of the Chamber of Deputies in Madrid.

With audits almost complete for approaching 700 Rumasa affiliates and subsidiaries in Spain, there were indications recently that the Government was moving towards consolidation of some of the firms.

There was some reticence in the business community, pending the outcome of litigation between the dispossessed owner, Señor José María Ruiz-Mateos, and the state.

The position maintained by the Minister of the Treasury

and Commerce, Señor Miguel Boyer, since the Government decreed the takeover last February, is that compensation will be paid to Señor Ruiz-Mateos and other previous owners, and the conglomerate will then be broken up and sold piecemeal to the highest bidder.

In recent months at least one exception to the so-called "reprivatization" plan became evident when the Government promised that some of the Rumasa estates in the southern Andalusia region would be turned over to cooperatives.



The assassin Hutchie T. Moore in his wheelchair.

Slaughter in Chicago court

Domestic tensions flared into public slaughter in a Chicago divorce court when Hutchie T. Moore, disabled in a wheelchair, pulled out a gun and shot the judge and the attorney representing his ex-wife.

Judge Henry Gentile and the lawyer, Mr James Piszczor, died of multiple gunshot wounds in hospital.



The attorney: Ambulance men wheeling Mr Piszczor from the court after he was cut down by a hail of bullets. He died in hospital.

The Judge: Mr Henry Gentile, aged 63.

Forty years of military coups Caught in a vicious circle of instability

ARGENTINE ELECTIONS

Next Sunday, Argentina goes to the polls in the country's first general elections for 40 years. Andrew Thompson, in the first of three articles, reports from Buenos Aires on the difficulties facing the politicians.

Perhaps the key issue in Argentina's elections is whether the victorious presidential candidate will last the six-year term in office.

Success, in simple terms, will be a historic test. In the past 40 years, Argentina has had 19 presidents, and the number is still higher if one counts the frequent "caretaker" presidents who, for only a few weeks in the midst of political crises, of the 1930-41 were army generals who reached power through military coups. The average term in office was just under three years. Only one president lasted the full constitutional term: General Juan Domingo Perón from 1946 to 1955.

The vicious circle of instability is widely recognized as being central to Argentina's postwar decline. Mr "Aldo Marchesi", a French political scientist specialising in contemporary Argentine history, said recently at a seminar in Buenos Aires: "The problem is not so much the politicization of the military, more the militarization of the civilians."

While Argentines are wary of the opinions of "foreign specialists", there is agreement that almost all the coups have been requested, instigated, or supported by different political parties at different stages in the past.

Señor Raúl Alfonsín, the Radical Party's presidential candidate, has used the popular Argentine version of M. Riquelme's observation: "We have all knocked on the door of the barracks in the past," he has said. Like Señor Ítalo Luder, the Peronist candidate, and all the other parties, Señor Alfonsín holds that times have changed now.

The optimistic argument is based on the theory that the last cycle of military governments, starting with the 1976 coup, has been so disastrous for the country that a deep change in attitudes has taken place.

The last seven years have certainly been rich in catastrophes. Economic policy under the military failed to control three figure inflation and led to bank and company failures and unprecedented unemployment. The method chosen to fight guerrilla movements, the so-called "dirty war", led to deaths and "disappearances" variously estimated at between 15,000 and 30,000. The majority of these were peaceful opponents of the regime.

Having failed on the domestic front, the generals brought the country to the brink of war with Chile in 1978 to 1979, and then threw it into the disastrous Falklands war with Britain last year.

But the view that the catastrophes on their own will cause a regeneration of democ-

cracy must be questioned. Señor Oscar Camillón, a former foreign minister and member of the Movement for Integration and Development is cautious.

"The elections open up the possibility of a stable Government. Only a constitutional Government can be stable. We have the chance to pull Argentina out of the category of unpredictable countries", he says. But he also gives warning that the opportunity can be turned into a reality only if the next Government starts solving the country's essential problems.

Señor José Milgrom, a Peronist sociologist who has studied militarism, insists that the key question is whether a Government can generate powerful popular support, and use it to enforce "the subordination of military power to the decisions of elected authorities, the political power."

The programmes of the two main parties, the Peronists and the Radicals, offer few clues to the success of the next effort at democratic rule.

The real test, observers agree, will be the pragmatic steps taken by the next Government in its first 100 days in office.



General Perón in 1973, the year before his death.

"The next Government will have to take four or five dramatic measures immediately, capable of capturing the popular imagination and consolidating its position. In those first 100 days popular power will be at a peak and no one will dare launch a coup. But if the Government wastes its opportunity and starts hesitating, it will be laying the seeds for its eventual downfall."

Tomorrow: The economic dilemma

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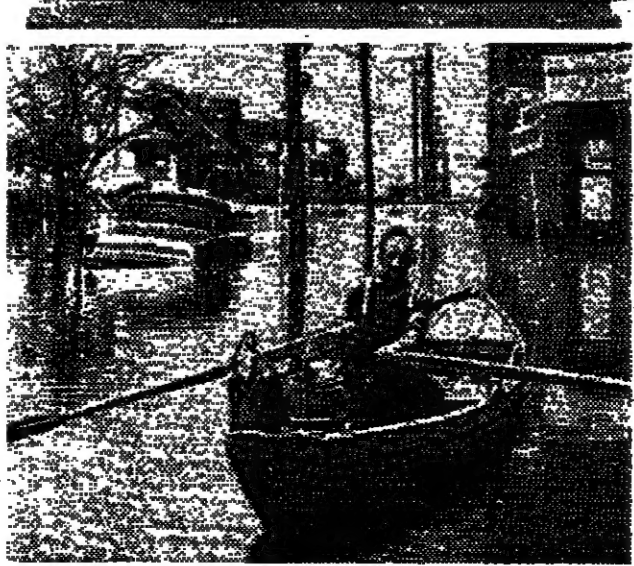
Of course, you can continue to gamble that because you've got by to date, you'll survive tomorrow.

But at what odds?

Call one of the regional offices listed below for the introductory leaflet 'Getting into ECGD'.



Export with confidence.



Four die as guerrillas attack Lima

Lima (Reuters) - Four people were killed and five injured when left-wing guerrillas launched a coordinated series of bomb attacks on targets throughout the Peruvian capital.

Insurgents thought to be from the Maoist Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) group attacked at least four targets with dynamite in the space of 20 minutes on Saturday night, including the headquarters of the ruling Popular Action Party (AP) and a police station.

The dead were an AP party worker, a policeman and two guerrillas, police said.

It was the second guerrilla attack on Lima in a week, ending a five-month lull in political violence in the capital. An assault last Saturday partially blacked out this city of five million people and wounded two policemen.

President Fernando Belaúnde, speaking at the headquarters, said the bomb attacks were designed to disrupt nationwide municipal elections on November 13.

In an emotional speech, Señor Belaúnde said his party's officials were willing to die to preserve Peru's three-year-old democratic Government. Two people died at AP headquarters in a guerrilla attack on May 21.

"Once more I have to ask my countrymen to remain as calm as possible to face these internationally motivated attacks", he said. He did not identify the foreign powers allegedly backing the guerrillas.

Ethnic claim hangs over Athens talks

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Yugoslavia and Greece are today exploring the outlook for bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the Balkans against a background of rising East-West tensions which are already casting a heavy shadow in the region.

Mr Milka Planinc, the Yugoslav Prime Minister, who is here on an official visit, had a long meeting with her Greek opposite number, Mr Andreas Papandreu, on arrival yesterday. Discussions were to continue today.

A dominant theme in the talks was Mr Papandreu's initiative for a Balkan conference in Thessalonica next January to consider plans for a nuclear-free zone in the area. However, Bulgaria's implied threat to deploy Soviet missiles if Pershing 2 and Cruise missiles are installed in Europe, could cause the plan to collapse.

It was the Yugoslavs who had "cautioned" Mr Papandreu against Bulgaria's intentions by pointing out the existence of missile launching pads in that country, which could easily be converted into a Soviet nuclear base within hours.

The Greeks have since received intelligence that airborne Soviet missiles could be ferried across the Black Sea within 11 hours to Bulgaria and positioned on special trucks that would fire the narrower gauge of the European railway system.

Chinese find a glimpse of thigh too shocking

Peking (AFP) - The southern Chinese city of Canton banned a popular music show at an hotel because two of the show's girls appeared in costumes which revealed their thighs, the *Yangcheng Daily News* reported.

The paper said the singers, dressed in black *qipao* - long traditional Chinese robes with slits up the sides - "intentionally revealed their thighs".

eliciting strong protests from some spectators.

The Canton Office of Cultural Affairs criticized the concert organizers, but they refused to make changes and in fact added several "unhealthy" songs to the show.

The banning is part of a campaign against "spiritual pollution", now underway in China, particularly aimed at "decadent" Western ideas.

ARGENTINA
ELECTION

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1940-1941
1942-1943
1944-1945

Company's future goes up in smoke

European peace movements on the march against nuclear missile deployment

Cheers and boos as Brandt urges rejection of new weapons

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Herr Willy Brandt, chairman of the Social Democratic Party, told a gathering of at least 200,000 people here on Saturday that it was the time to say no to new nuclear weapons. Germany did not need more means of mass destruction, but fewer.

The former Chancellor, the most important speaker at the anti-nuclear demonstration organized by the peace movement, expressed "bitter disappointment" that no political will for agreement had been shown at Geneva. "Many people who were of good faith feel they have been made fools of."

Brandt said the Soviet leadership had admitted it had overruled, and was willing to scrap some medium-range missiles. Why had the Russians not been taken at their word in Geneva? he asked, voicing the suspicion that unnamed "powerful people" saw the deployment of Pershing 2 missiles as more important than the removal of SS20s.

Tremendous applause from the huge crowd assembled in a park in front of the University greeted Herr Brandt, a Nobel peace prize winner, but there were also some whistles; his speech, which virtually commits the Social Democrats to outright opposition to the Nato deployment decision in advance of their special conference, was sharply attacked afterwards by both left and right.

Frau Petra Kelly, the charismatic former leader of the Green Party, immediately denounced Herr Brandt at the rally for not calling for the abolition of all nuclear weapons. She said he had betrayed her trust in him - his no to deployment had not been unconditional.

Government ministers also criticized him. Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, said the Social Democrats had systematically abandoned a common security policy, and were becoming a left-wing protest movement.

The demonstration was one of the biggest ever seen in Bonn. Its organizers estimated that 500,000 people from all over the country took part. They claimed that more than 1.3 million people were also involved in the huge demonstrations in Hamburg, Stuttgart, West Berlin and Neu-Ulm. Police put the total figure at 500,000.

Between Stuttgart and Neu-Ulm some 200,000 people formed a human chain, 67 miles long, and in Bonn another chain linked the embassies of the five nuclear powers - the United States, the Soviet Union,

EEC foreign ministers in Athens

Soviet tactics fail to split allies

From Ian Murray and Mario Mediano, Vouliagmeni, Greece

The Soviet Union has failed in its attempt to drive a wedge between Europe and the United States over the deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles.

EEC foreign ministers, during an informal meeting here, felt that the Soviet Union could not afford to break off the arms reduction talks for long without losing credibility with the peace movement.

According to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, "the judgment was that the Soviet tactic was very clearly seen to be an attempt to decouple Europe from the US and that has failed, that is getting through to the Soviet Union as well."

East-West tensions against the background of massive peace demonstrations in Nato countries took up the largest part of the two-day get-together. During the meeting ministers were kept informed of the size

More time needed on budget reform

From Our Special Correspondent, Vouliagmeni

So difficult have the negotiations for the reform of the EEC become that Community foreign ministers have agreed there must be yet a further council session devoted to the outstanding problems if the European summit at Athens of December 4-6 is to have any chance of success.

At their informal meeting at Vouliagmeni near Athens they reviewed the work done at the three special councils held so far

on the subject. Despite the fact that specialist groups have been set up to tackle agricultural reform and future financing of the Community, the gap between member states remains daunting.

Britain, which precipitated the negotiations by insisting on a fairer way of assessing budget contributions, remains determined not to consider any increase in the legal ceiling for

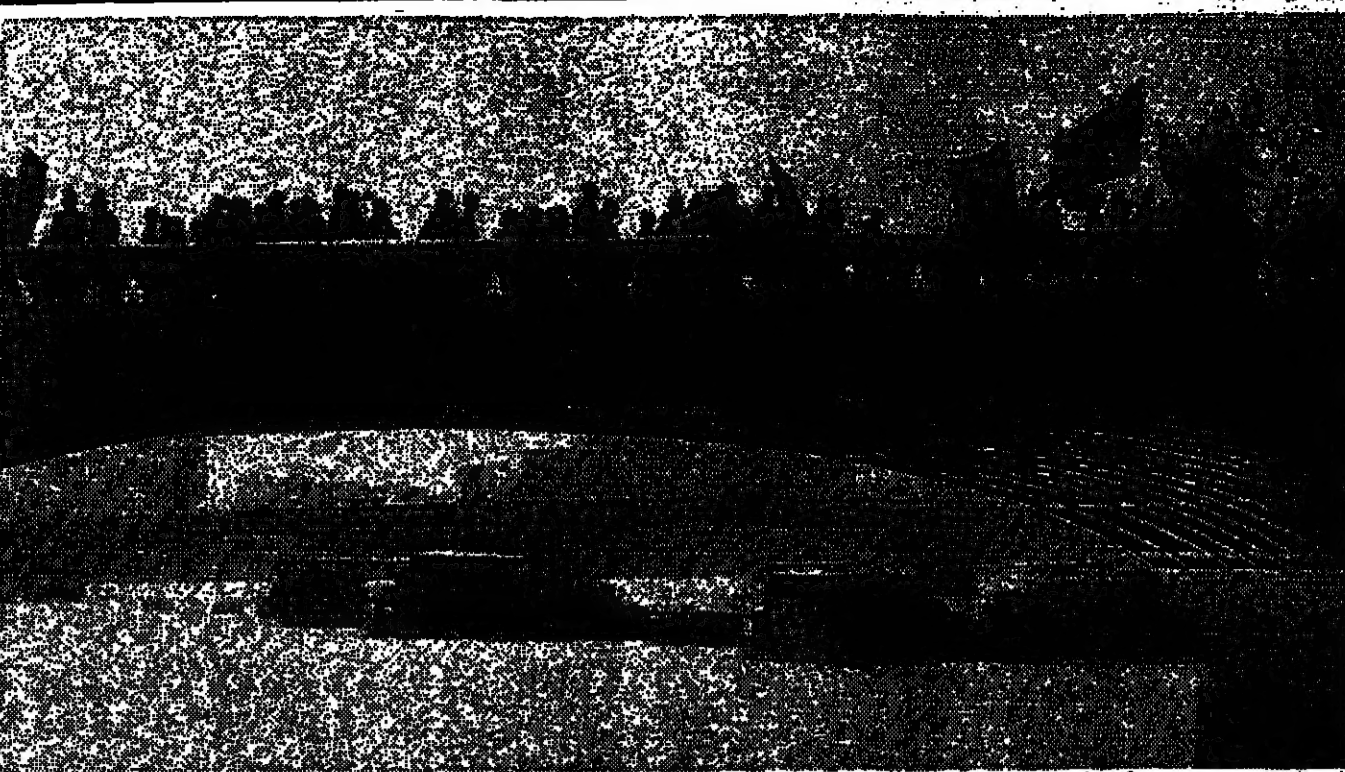
the party is now thought to be mentally prepared for the election, with a campaign slogan, and as many old wounds salved as possible. The theme of the successful election campaign in 1971 was *Garibi Hatao* (Get rid of poverty). In 1977 Mrs Gandhi was ousted on the single platform of hostility to the state of emergency.

In 1980 she was re-elected with the slogan "Government that works". The general belief is that they will

take place next March or October.

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In 1980 she was re-elected with the slogan "Government that works". The general belief is that they will



On the march: London protesters cross Westminster Bridge. Photograph, Brian Harris.

CND army takes London by storm

By a Staff Reporter

More than a quarter of a million people marched through central London on Saturday under the banners of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament to sing and make speeches about nuclear arms and to protest at the deployment of cruise missiles.

The demonstration "put paid to the notion that the peace movement was on its last legs," Mrs Joan Ruddock, the chairman of CND, said yesterday. It was one of the largest political demonstrations in recent times. CND leaders acknowledged that it was as important for morale in the anti-nuclear movement as in swaying public opinion.

CND claimed that the eight hours of marching and speeches could be compared with demonstrations of the nineteenth century Chartists and that police estimates of 200,000 participants fell far short of the total in Hyde Park.

The organizers of the demonstration, which was held in the city of London, said that the police had estimated the number at 150,000.

The organizers of yesterday's march are a loose grouping of Christian pacifists, the CND, union, left-wing Socialists and ecologists. They succeeded in forming a human chain between the United States Embassy on the Place de la Concorde and the Soviet Union Embassy on the edge of the Bois de Boulogne, about three miles away.

MADRID: Demonstrations in Madrid, Zaragoza and other big cities chanted "Nato no, out with the American bases" (Richard Wigg writes). The organizers' banners, however bore the slogan "For a denuclearized Europe".

Police estimated that more than 100,000 were present in Madrid.

BRUSSELS: An estimated 300,000 people marched in the biggest anti-nuclear demonstration in Belgium history in Brussels yesterday (AP reports).

Observers and marchers agreed that the event was well marshalled, at the expense of London motorists and bus users who suffered diversions and delays in the central area until well into the evening. Mr. Illtyd Harrington, the deputy leader of the Greater London Council, praised the police. "Everyone from the assistant commissioner to the volunteer special constables showed tact and friendliness in the very best traditions of the London bobby."

The presence on the marches (three separate columns filed through the streets) of Mr. Michael Foot, the former Labour leader, and Mr. Neil Kinnock, his successor, ensured the close identification of the event with left-of-centre politics.

Mr. Kinnock, the keynote speaker at the Hyde Park rally, said: "We must have an absolute freeze on the testing, deployment and use of nuclear weapons." Both the Trident and cruise missile systems would

turn Britain into a mere launching platform, the first line in the defence of the United States, he said.

On their way past the Cenotaph in Whitehall, CND officials laid a wreath of carnations and chrysanthemums dedicated to the "victims of all wars".

At the top of Whitehall, there was a small counter-demonstration, including Mr. Lyngvi McDonald, the son of the American Congressman killed when the South Korean airliner was shot down by Soviet fighters two months ago.

CND leaders were yesterday convinced that the demonstration had confounded government hopes that the peace movement would disappear. Mr. Roger Spiller, the vice-chairman, said the scale of the London demonstration, taken with events in other European cities, was so great that President Reagan would be unable to ignore it.

Despite rumours of an impending Warsaw Pact summit in Moscow reports were still circulating at the weekend that the weekend would be a deliberate change of plan had forced President Andropov to cancel a trip to Bulgaria this week.

Informed sources denied the illness was serious, however. Dr. Evgeny Chazov, Mr. Andropov's personal surgeon, has been attending a seminar in Moscow for the past week and his services have not been required. Mr. Andropov is reported to have taken one of his periodic rest cures.

On the other hand the Soviet leader has also cancelled a trip to Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia.

Some observers believe his recurrent illness has proved convenient, since Mr. Andropov does not want to make major public announcements at a time when the Soviet Union is keeping the West guessing over its intentions at the Geneva arms talks.

Andropov illness more convenient than serious

From Richard Owen, Moscow

East European sources said a Warsaw Pact summit might convene in Moscow within the next two weeks to formulate an eleventh-hour response to the planned deployment of Nato missiles in Europe in December. This response might include a "final offer" to break the deadlock at the Geneva arms talks.

Warsaw Pact foreign ministers met in Sofia two weeks ago and issued an ambiguous statement suggesting Russia would stay at the Geneva talks provided the Nato deployments were deferred. Marshal Viktor Kulikov, the Pact commander, spoke vaguely of a military response, and Mr. Andrei Gromyko later said in East Berlin that Russia and its allies would not sit by with their arms folded. Last Friday Pact defence ministers meeting in Berlin said they had reached an "appropriate decision."

There was quiet speculation in Moscow over the strength of weekend anti-nuclear demonstrations in Europe.

The Grenada crisis

Island calm but tense and volatile

From Christopher Thomas, Bridgetown, Barbados

The ruling 16-man revolutionary Military Council issued repeated assurances over the state-run Radio Free Grenada throughout the weekend about the well being of 1,000 Americans and other foreign nationals on the small Caribbean island.

Grenada airport is still closed but a small US plane carrying two diplomats from America and one from Britain was allowed to land on Saturday afternoon. The British official, Mr. David Montgomery, Deputy High Commissioner to Barbados, Radioed to the Commission yesterday that the situation on the island was "calm but tense and volatile."

Mr. Giles Bullard, the British High Commissioner in Barbados, said that it was understood that about 40 British holiday-makers wanted to leave Grenada.

He added that the permanent British residents would be best advised "to stay at home with the curtains drawn until the trouble blows over."

As far as was known no British citizens had suffered any injury.

The 13 nation Caribbean Community, a trade and political grouping, was in emergency session in Trinidad until 3 am yesterday and resumed later in the day to consider isolating Grenada by severing trade and diplomatic links.

The possibility of military action did not appear to be a serious option. The 1,000-strong Grenada Army, which has sophisticated weaponry supplied by Cuba, is regarded as

HMS Antrim Steaming for Grenada

US denies invasion plan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

United States officials yesterday rejected charges by the new military leadership in Grenada that Washington was preparing to invade the island.

They said that the Navy task force, with 10 vessels headed by the aircraft carrier Independence and with 1,900 Marines on board, had been diverted from its original destination, Lebanon, towards Grenada in case it was necessary to

evacuate the 1,000 Americans living there.

Despite Grenadian assurances that the Americans on the island were not in danger, US officials said they were concerned about their safety, pointing out that the island's ruling junta had threatened to shoot any curfew-breakers.

Most of the Americans are attached to the St George's University's school of medicine

Bankruptcy notice calculated to perplex and mislead

Buckley v National Westminster Bank plc

Before Mr. Justice Walton and Mr. Justice Nicholls
[Judgment delivered October 20]

Even though the prescribed statutory form of bankruptcy notice might itself be calculated to perplex and mislead the debtor, that was not sufficient to make a bankruptcy notice in the prescribed form invalid.

Mr. Justice Walton and Mr. Justice Nicholls sitting in the Divisional Court in Bankruptcy in the Chancery Division, dismissed an appeal by the bankrupt against the refusal of the Registrar of the Warrington County Court on June 22, 1983 to set aside the bankruptcy notice made on November 30, 1982.

The bankrupt in question, Mr. David M. Jones, filed a bankruptcy notice in the prescribed form No. 6 in Appendix 1 to the Bankruptcy Rules (SI 1982 No 213).

One of the ways of complying with a bankruptcy notice was to secure or compound for the debt to the satisfaction of the court. Mr. Jones failed to do this and the court found that he had not complied with the notice.

His Lordship considered that what a debtor in such circumstances is fact ought to do, was to apply to

the court by motion supported by affidavit under rule 31, asking for an extension of time under section 109(4). This time could be obtained in which to discover whether the debtor's satisfaction or compounding of the judgment debt was to the satisfaction of the court.

It was true that the bankruptcy notice did not tell the debtor that so it could be said that the statutory form itself was calculated to perplex and mislead him.

Nevertheless, section 2 provided that a bankruptcy notice should be in the prescribed form. That was mandatory. And the bankruptcy notice in question was in the prescribed form. It was not, as the bankrupt claimed, that it might be, had been in the form prescribed by the Act.

There was therefore no scope for a court to hold it invalid. That was so in spite of *Re a Judgment Debtor* (1908) 2 KB 474 which held that a bankruptcy notice had legal consequences and as regarded substantial matters had to be strictly construed; that a notice calculated to perplex and mislead a debtor as to the method of complying with it was invalid and should be set aside.

Mr. Justice Nicholls agreed. Solicitors: Wilde Septe.

Court of Appeal

Late amendment of claim disallowed on appeal

Emin v Mestapha

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Wilford, Lord Justice Goff and Lord Justice Robert Goff) on October 18 allowed a defendant's interlocutory appeal against a trial judge's decision to allow an amendment to a statement of claim on the first day of the trial.

The plaintiff, who was the defendant's son, sought to set aside a transfer of property when he had a house to the defendant in 1971 for \$4,900 after being advised by a solicitor who acted on behalf of both parties.

The plaintiff's original claim was that he was of unsound mind at the time of the sale. On the morning of the trial the plaintiff sought leave to amend the pleadings by relying on the additional grounds of undue influence and unconscionable bargain. The judge exercised his discretion in the plaintiff's favour and allowed the amendment.

Although their Lordships were

reluctant to interfere with the exercise of a judge's discretion they were satisfied that he had erred because he had failed to give weight to certain matters.

The effect of the pleadings which the plaintiff sought to introduce was to shift the burden of proof from the plaintiff to the defendant in regard to events which took place in 1971. The court should therefore have approached the amendment with caution but the judge had not referred to that point at all.

The defendant was further prejudiced by the fact that the solicitor who acted on behalf of the plaintiff had taken place before the plaintiff said his property had died in 1982 and no proof of evidence had been taken from him. That evidence was now "too crucial to the defendant's case" to be taken if the claims had been pleaded before.

The appeal should therefore be allowed.

Call for 'interlocutory order' to be defined

Grove v (Mayfair) Estate v Cunningham

In granting the defendant leave to appeal from the decision of Judge McDonald in the Westminster County Court on August 23, 1983, Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, sitting with Lord Justice May and Lord Justice Dillon in the Court of Appeal on October 21, said that the application illustrated the need for a definition of what was and what was not an interlocutory order.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS

said that it was wholly unreasonable for the profession to have to scan a large number of cases in *The Supreme Court Practice*, some of which were probably irrelevant to the issues in the case, and that it was a waste of time and money and it brought the rules into disrepute. The matter should be considered and a statutory instrument should be issued.

It was unfortunate that there was no reference on p87 of *The County Court Practice 1983* to the decision of the Court of Appeal in *Solter Rex & Co v Ghosh* (1972) 2 QB 597.

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The department will encourage Mersey-side to follow the national trend, towards treating people in their own homes rather than in hospital. It will be financed by an £80,000 annual grant from the University Grants Committee, a £20,000 annual grant from the Mersey Regional Health Authority and a £5,000 annual grant from the Liverpool Health Authority.

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Michael Hamlyn Delhi

The first party conference held by Mrs Indira Gandhi's congress (I) for three years has ended with its members ready for an election any time she should call it.

Elections have to come before the beginning of 1985, and Mrs Gandhi has been insisting by declaring that they will come "when they are due". The general belief is that they will

مجلس الامم المتحدة

Tom Waite

SPECTRUM



Even for a young man with ambitions to become a poet, National Service in the late 1940s offered more than absurdity and boredom. For Philip Oakes, there were opportunities to see Greece

and Egypt, to take a further step into the world of journalism and to meet kindred literary spirits. In the first of three extracts from the forthcoming final volume of his autobiographical trilogy, he describes a memorable encounter with an unlikely recruit which began on his very first day in the Army, before he had even drawn his kit or quaked at a sergeant's oath.

Go home, virgin soldier

At the end of my first week in the Army I dropped my rifle, during arms drill. Between the orders for Slope and Present Arms my fingers lost their grip and my Browning 303 ("The soldier's best friend," the sergeant-instructor advised) clattered to the tarmac.

The sergeant, a weary veteran of the Rhine Army, turned his head and studied the skyline. His demob number was coming up soon and, as he frequently reminded us, all he wanted to do was serve the rest of his time, without drama, cock-ups or the necessity of having to put any of us on a charge.

We warned to his indifference, but a young second lieutenant - newly commissioned and eager to show how gravely I had offended his sense of military decorum - dashed his swag stick to the parade ground and actually danced up and down in his rage.

I felt myself blushing. "I'm sorry," I said.

The lieutenant paused. "What d'you mean, sorry?"

"Sorry, sir," I said.

He quivered all over as if someone was shaking him from inside. "Don't say you're sorry. Pick it up. Come to attention. Raise your weapon over your head and double round the parade ground!"

I trotted off while he screamed at me now and again in what we both took to be a soldierly fashion. I did not find it, upsetting. Learning to be a soldier was pretty much as I had imagined it would be.

The rules were absurd and the bull was boring, but of all the institutions I had known it seemed to me the most relaxed and apart from twerps like the lieutenant and ogres like the regimental sergeant major who instilled terror by his reputation alone, I enjoyed the company. On the appointed day I was

ordered to report to Warley Barracks in Essex by 3pm. Waiting for the train I saw several other solitary figures nursing suitcases and guessed rightly that they too were bound for the Army. We identified ourselves and crammed into one compartment.

There was a trainee solicitor's clerk, a builder's labourer, a barber, an electrician's mate, an accountant and a boy who sat in the opposite corner hugging a brown paper parcel. He was either shy or frightened, I thought. Although it was early April and still chilly he wore no overcoat, only a thin black sweater with holes at each elbow.

"What's your name?" I asked.

He shied away as if I had threatened him with my fist. "David,"

"Is that your surname?" He shook his head. "David Williams."

"D'you come from London?"

"Holloway."

"I've been living at Highbury," I said. "That's just five minutes away."

He did not seem at all interested. "I live with my mum. And my dog. They shouldn't have got me to come."

"I never wanted to," he said. "I wanted to stay with my mum."

"Didn't we all," said the barber, whose name was Sims.

"My mum didn't want me to go," said Williams. "She told the bobby when he came. But he said I had to. They were going to lock me up otherwise."

It was like listening to an event being described by a small child who understood nothing of what had occurred. "Everybody gets called up," I said. "You're not being treated any differently."

He shook his head. "I was up all night with the dog. He kept crying. He knew I was going off."

"What sort of dog is it?"

"Brown," he said.

"What breed?" He shook his head again. "He's called Prince."

For the rest of the journey he remained silent and when we piled into the lorry which took us to the barracks he squatted on the floor and stared at



Bygone battledress: learning the drill, or not, as the case may be

his shoes. The soles had parted from the uppers and they were laced up with string.

Over the next couple of hours I saw Williams being shouted at, herded into line, and once being led by his hand from one desk to another by a succession of NCOs. They treated him rather like a casualty in a bombing raid who had escaped obvious injury, but whose incomprehension was a wound which excited both their pity and their rage.

"He's barmy," said Sims. "Thick as two planks!"

"Working his ticket, more like," said Dollimore, the electrician's mate.

"Good luck to him if he can pull it off."

I watched Williams drop his trousers for the M.O. and his look of outrage when it was explained what was required of him. Sulkily he coughed when he was told to, but there was no mistaking the impression he conveyed of offence given and offence received. "My mum said not to let people touch me," he explained when I asked what had gone wrong.

"You're going to get a lot of that."

"No I won't," he said. "I shall tell my mum. She'll put a stop to it."

I looked at him sharply, half expecting to catch the last flicker of a grin. But he seemed completely serious. There was no trace of a smile.

He clasped the brown paper parcel to his chest and I caught the whiff of moth balls.

"What's in there?"

"My things."

"What things?"

"Combinations. They were my dad's. My mum says I have to wear them."

He peeled back one edge of the parcel and showed me layers of yellow wool, seeded with small rubber buttons.

"You can't wear combs in the army," I said. "They won't let you."

Williams carefully remade his parcel. "I didn't want to come here in the first place," he said. "It's their fault if it all goes wrong."

Our barrack room was small and

dirty, with an iron stove at one end of the room and rows of wooden bunks facing each other across the splintered floor. On each bunk there lay a pile of three straw-filled biscuits. "You put them end to end to make your mattress," said the corporal. "Any fleas you find you brought with you."

"Prince had fleas," Williams told me with a sigh. "I had to stop having him in my bed."

He had taken the bunk beneath mine and during the night I woke to hear him crying in his sleep. His face was quite peaceful, but I saw tears stripping his cheek. At reveille the next morning he remained curled beneath his blankets and when the corporal stripped them back we saw that he was lying in a pool of urine.

"You dirty little sod. You've just done that," said the corporal. "It's still steaming."

Williams nodded agreeably. "I always do it if I'm not woken up. My mum wakes me up at home."

The corporal bent down until his mouth was barely an inch from Williams's ear. "Your mum's not here now!" he roared. "Take those biscuits back to stores and tell Q what a disgusting little soldier you've been. Then report back to me and we'll decide whether or not to put you on a charge."

The charge was deferred but after Williams had wet the bed on four successive nights he was charged with the wilful damage of army property, confined to barracks and ordered to make restitution by weekly instalments deducted from his pay. He was also issued with a rubber sheet which he wiped down with disinfectant every morning. Our corner of the barrack room began to smell like a hospital.

"Why don't you report sick?" I said.

"I'm not ill."

"But you keep peeing the bed. There must be something wrong."

"I've already told you," said Williams. "All I need is someone to wake me up. My mum wakes me up at home."

Our initial training at Warley Barracks lasted for six weeks and from first to last Williams maintained a

level of inefficiency which seemed likely to establish a record. Like me he dropped his rifle, not once but a dozen times. Without effort he could disrupt a morning's drill by falling, again and again, to distinguish his right foot from his left.

He was banned from grenade practice after the sergeant had to prise the grenade from his hand and hurl it into the sand pit where it exploded with only seconds to spare. He was denied leave. He spent hours in sweeping the barracks and toiling through cookhouse fatigues. He lost his small pack, his best battledress and his pay book.

While the rest of the intake gradually began to resemble soldiers, boning their boots and weighting their trouser bottoms with lead bracelets so that they hung evenly over their gaiters, Williams continued to look irrevocably unstrung.

He lacked co-ordination. His beret refused to remain on the tilt over his right eye, but rode back over his curls to form a halo around his unworried face. He was abused, nagged and finally ignored, but he did not complain except to remind his critic that his mum would soon sort things out if she was there.

Did you have a good time?" Williams asked me when I returned from my first weekend leave.

"Not bad."

"Did you see your mum?"

I shook my head. "I've already told you. She doesn't live in London. I went to see my girlfriend."

"Don't you want to see your mum?"

"I'd love to but there wasn't time."

"My mum's the only person in the world I want to see," said Williams. "It won't be long now." He almost crooned the words as if constant repetition had turned them into liturgy.

I smoothed my blankets and made hospital corners. "Let's hope you're right," I said. He smiled swiftly and secretly. "I'm right," he said. "Don't worry about that."

We were given news of our postings in the last week of the course. I had been turned down not only for the paratroops but also by the War Office Selection Board. "Let's face it, you're not exactly officer material," said the lieutenant who had thrown down his swag stick during arms drill. Instead, I was to join the RASC as a clerk. So was Sims and so was Dollimore. They were both disgusted.

"What's happened to Williams?" asked Dollimore.

We found him in the barrack room packing his brown paper parcel into a new fibre-board suitcase. He wore a skimpy tweed suit and a shirt patterned with thin red stripes. A trilby hat was perched on the back of his head and a raincoat was folded neatly across the bottom of his bunk. "I'm going home," he said. "They've discharged me."

Dollimore whistled softly. "Jammy bugger."

"On what grounds?" I asked.

Williams smiled, as secretly as usual but with a joy he found it hard to disguise. "Compassionate," he said. "My mum couldn't cope. She sent a certificate. The doctor signed it."

"He'd have signed one for you," said Sims. "Quick as a flash."

Williams nodded. "I expect he would. But there's no need now."

"Will your mum be all right?" I asked.

Williams fastened the lock on his suitcase and draped the raincoat over his arm. "There's nothing wrong with my mum. All she needs is me and all I need is her. I've always told you that."

We watched him cross the parade ground. In the distance stood the lieutenant, quivering in anticipation of a salute. Within seconds he realized that the approaching target was a civilian, but before he could retreat Williams swept off his hat and made a low bow. "Jammy bugger," said Dollimore again.

TOMORROW
Magritte, Melly and the
Magnolia Jazz Band

Jive-talking with the low-life poet



Tom Waits: not the purest of lyrical lites

It is fruitless to ask who he is, or where he came from, or where he lives, or how much he earns. You might as well ask a tree the time. Any question which might form an ordinary part of natural discourse gets surrealistically upended or mocked or artfully dodged (the publicity material says that he is in his early thirties, lives in Los Angeles and is the son of an innkeeper). Like many cult heroes before him, Tom Waits is good at keeping himself well hidden: cults go better with an enigma at the core.

He is not much to look at: you would never notice him in the street - a scrawny, equine, face in which pale eyes dart suspiciously, a body like a rubber-plank, clad in cheap shirt and trousers. Only the misshapen pork-pie hat might snag a third of attention. He is recognisable by sight only to his followers, who approach him with the kind of aweful reverence of the unclean towards the divine.

It is his voice that chiefly makes him out, a rasp so rough and slow that his speech sounds like a drunk snoring into the bottom of an empty pint pot, and his singing like the rumble of the shingle in the rip of the tide. "You're trying to say that the public shouldn't have to listen to a noise like a dead dog growling when they buy a record," he said, detecting a suggestion that his might not be the purest of lyrical lites. "Well, it's true that I'll never sing opera again. It is, however, an appropriate organ for conveying, uh... it's the right kind of horn for my

car. People get out of the way when I blow it. It frightens children and gets me a seat at the bar. What more do you want from a voice?"

It is the vehicle for conveying low-life scenes and delivering ugly thoughts, a voice darkly stained by full satirists and empty glasses. Such is the stuff of the songs Tom Waits writes. With a touch of Kerouac and hobos who never got a dime ahead, he sings of lost souls in one-night cheap hotels, of gusts of lust in the corner of the party and of married men in the suburbs setting fire to their mortgaged houses and driving away.

Long after he was presumed to have been swept from the gutter, the white Negro of the American Fifties lives on in the figure and the career of Tom Waits. He has so thoroughly assumed the mannerisms and interests of the Beat Generation that he is now its living representative on earth. He is undoubtedly as good a poet of the low life as any of the many seen in America, with the advantage that he can, at will, put his hand on and make use of all the varieties and idioms of American popular music.

Some of his tunes are so immediately familiar that they seem more to have been borrowed or stolen than invented. He says: "Sometimes when I get an idea for a melody it's as if it's already been written or as if it's been sitting off somewhere waiting to hitch a ride on my horn."

Many other writers of popular music, including Gershwin and Phil Spector, have, he points out, expressed the same feeling, and it follows, he thinks, from a lifetime's immersion in the music itself and from a mental openness to the workings of the subconscious. The words of a title often come to him first and then "it all comes in the same bus - words, music, arrangement."

Some of the ideas which come so unbidden will not go away on order. "The melodies I get obsessed with are usually the ones I can't stand: they've just got the nuisance value of a piece of gum that's stuck on the bottom of your shoe."

Sometimes the only reason for writing is to move an idea out of your mind: other times the reason that you write is the fear that you'll forget what you're thinking.

Ten LPs have appeared in as many years, bearing about a hundred of his songs, each new record more adventurous and inventive than the last.

At present, he says, he is assembling the band and music for an "off-Broadway review which you might say is my *Beggar's Opera*."

In search of further adventure, he has recently done some work in films for Francis Ford Coppola, writing the music for *One From The Heart* and taking a small part in Coppola's current movie project, *Cotton Club*, which is about the renowned Harlem club of that name where, in the years of the Depression, some famous jazz was

made and from which the Duke Ellington band was effectively launched.

He has enjoyed, he says, the opportunity to learn about the music of the Cotton Club, of which he knew little; and Coppola is plainly some kind of hero for Waits - "so mercurial and inventive. I always walk away from Francis feeling a bit taller" - but the slow-motion of movie-making is not his speed: "I don't like it that you throw the rock and it takes two years to go through the window."

In preparation for his chosen career, he was "a fireman, a chef, a cab driver - all the regular training for a life of chance. I've never had a real job but there's still time, as my mother says."

"Actually I owe everything to Uncle Robert. He was the organist at a Los Angeles church and when the church was demolished, they gave Uncle Robert the organ. He had to have a well knocked down to get it in his house and some of the pipes stuck out through the roof. Well, Uncle Robert went blind but he kept right on playing and as he lost his sight he began to make the most wonderful mistakes, hitting the wrong stops, making a rich tapestry of sound full of bad notes."

"I couldn't wait for Sunday when we'd be taken to see Uncle Robert. He couldn't see you, of course, but that didn't stop him playing. Of course it's the truth. I wouldn't lie to *The Times*. You get the electric chair for that, don't you?"

Neil Lyndon

moreover...
Miles Kington

Land of dreamy scenes

Baton Rouge, Louisiana
The Americans have the lovable habit of always claiming the biggest or deepest this or that, but in Louisiana it is at its most lovable. I'm writing these words in Baton Rouge, which has the tallest state capitol in America, built by Huey Long, who was probably the most colourfully state governor of all time and certainly the most interesting to be assassinated during 1935. As if this were not enough, the guidebook claims that "while the Baton Rouge area is known for its petrochemical industries and the busy port, many people don't know that the city is also a producer of extra fine quality dirt, a reference to local gravel and not to Louisiana politics."

Morgan City, on the edge of Gulf of Mexico, does not look like an obvious tourist attraction, but this does not prevent the tour guide from telling you that "Morgan City has it all: seafood, boats, oil and charm", which is another way of saying that it is an oil harbour with restaurants. It is the only city I have ever met which has an annual Shrimp and Petroleum Festival. It also has three world first to its credit - in 1947 it launched the very first offshore oil drill, in 1933 the first jumbo shrimp was landed here and in 1917 it was the location of the world's first Tarzan movie. Morgan City is the stuff of which quiz questions are made.

So is Thibodaux, a Cajun town which boasts America's largest volunteer fire department with more than 500 voluntary firemen and, I would guess, not nearly enough fires to go round.

New Iberia, another Cajun town enriched by oil, has what seems to be the deepest salt deposits in the world as well as the world's only tabasco sauce factory. But its most amazing possession is a Roman statue, fully 7ft tall, of the Emperor Hadrian. Quite why the Iberia Savings & Loan Association decided to buy it is not entirely clear. But there he stands in a glass case, fully air-conditioned and surrounded by ferns. As the guidebook puts it, New Iberia boasts the only full-length statue of the Emperor Hadrian anywhere in the USA, a claim which is unlikely to be contested in our lifetime.

Some of Louisiana's claims are complicated by the American fondness for moving houses around the landscape. There is a house in north-east Louisiana which was built in 1722 and was believed to be the oldest structure in north-east Louisiana if not the whole of the Mississippi Basin. Last week its new owner moved it to New Iberia, so it is now the oldest house in south-west Louisiana, and the north-eastern record is held by some younger house.

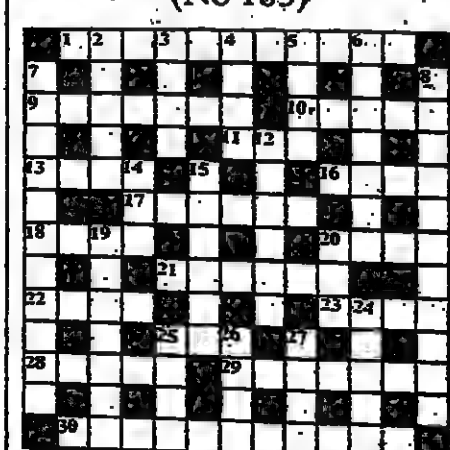
Unfortunately, during the move its 60-tonne weight of the house proved too much for a small country bridge (weight limit 2½ tonnes) and the bridge collapsed. For a while it was the oldest house sitting in a river anywhere in the world.

Personally, I am most impressed by Louisiana's drinking laws, which are not so well publicized in the guidebook. Whereas most states will take you out and have you shot if you have so much as an opened bottle in your car, the people of Louisiana can quite legally drink and drive at the same time, by which I mean with the wheel in one hand and a bottle in the other. Last Sunday an inhabitant was spotted driving home from the football game in New Orleans with a beer in one hand, the wheel in another and his left leg dangling out of the window. It was a thing the New Orleans Saints lost. If they'd won he would have had both legs out of the window.

If you're not driving or you're too drunk to remember where your car is, it's also the only state where you can legally walk along the street night and day with a drink in your hand.

Even at Restaurant Jonathan, about the smartest and best eating place in New Orleans, the waiters' reaction to our failure to polish off a bottle of white wine was to offer us two "go-cups" so we could finish the wine in the street. No wonder Louisiana likes to be known as "the Dream State". The only problem is where you'll be when you wake up.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 183)



- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Decadent (3,2,6) | 2 Outflow (5) |
| 9 Munitious | 3 Hollow (4) |
| 10 Microscopic stain dye (5) | 4 Only (4) |
| 11 Conclude (3) | 5 Looked at (4) |
| 13 Tall swamp grass (6) | 6 With verve (7) |
| 16 Roofing material element (4) | 7 Venerated guardian (6,5) |
| 17 Develop gradually (6) | 8 Cheap ornaments (11) |
| 18 Stink (4) | 9 Probationer (6) |
| 20 Borneo longhouse people (4) | 10 Spinning disc (7) |
| 21 Chinese dynasty (6) | 20 Fitting (3) |
| 22 Enthusiastic (4) | 21 Fencing thrust (5) |
| 23 Napoleon's island (4) | 25 Allot (4) |
| 25 European ocean (3) | 26 Narcotic (4) |
| 28 Magnanimous (5) | 27 Jobless benefactor (4) |
| 29 African newcomer (7) | |
| 30 Harassed (11) | |

Solution to Saturday's prize puzzle will appear on Saturday. Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise.

MODERN TIMES



A sideways look at the British way of life

GENTLEMEN'S CLUBS

The American is a hopeless club man. He gets too familiar with the staff, and when the staff respond in kind, he slaps them down. It is a relationship with which he cannot cope. The Frenchman is no better, as he does not function socially without a woman. The Italian male is a dead loss since he does not even enjoy the company of his own kind.

How's that for a piece of British bigotry? Quite fair, except that the observations were not made on British soil. Far from it; they are the considered views of someone who ran a well-known club in Tokyo. No matter; the truth is acknowledged globally, and can be summarized as: only the British gentleman knows how to belong to a club. This is a fact which, being as irrefutable as the law of gravity, has begged analysis. So, before attempting an explanation, it may be as well simply to record that the club as an institution, far from receding amid recession, has proved exceptionally durable.

Take for example the Garrick, favoured by the literary and theatrical fraternities. Number of full members, 950; annual subscription, £316; waiting list, six years. Or Boodle's entrance fee, £200; subscription, £285; waiting list, three years. Or the Savile: membership 900, subscription £225 which last year had a surplus of £20,000 and 200 more members than six years ago.

But wait a moment. Whatever happened to the Guards, the Devonshire, the Bath and Constitutional? The first, as befits an association of old soldiers, did not exactly die, but rather faded into a merger with the Cavalry, while the second joined the East India. The others gave up the ghost, victims of rising costs and falling rolls. Perhaps it is true that the survivors have endured partly because of the application of more professional management. In pre-war days the finances were infinitely simpler, overheads were usually covered by subscriptions, with extra income from food and drink.

Now the field is not only leaner but, because of the experience of the past decade, better conditioned to survival. Street-wise if you like. It may not be apparent to members (something would be amiss if it were), but the successful clubs of today depend on modern and efficient accountancy far removed from the benign amateurishness of 40 years ago.

Beleaguered clubs may have to look no further than their own membership for the reason: old gents clinging at all costs to a house style that is by definition moribund; looking askance at the

infiltration of youth precisely because it is young. One must go back to the eighteenth-century coffee-house for the origins of the club; already political and artistic sectarianism was in evidence. Whigs went to St James Coffee House, Tories to the Cocoa Tree Chocolate House, while the literati repaired to Will's and the clergy to Trubey's. In those days, of course, such institutions were conduits of news as much as anything else, a function which the business columns of the press were soon to assume. As such, the houses were more egalitarian than their modern counterparts; certainly there was a higher incidence of strangers than today.

There is a paradox in the club's inheritance of those democratic impulses. Although professional status is a thing to be left on the pavement, there is a sense in which the very existence of the place runs counter to the notion of an open house. All may be 'delightfully equal' to those inside, but to the outsider, rightly or wrongly, the club comes across as an institution with a quasi-Masonic exclusiveness.

This is an image hotly disputed by the clubs' apologists. They will tell you there is nothing sinister about a haven of kindred spirits, and that anyway the changes since the days of the coffee-house mean that commercial intercourse has been all but outlawed. To paraphrase one club secretary: you may talk shop, but not business; one member may discuss with another the shortcomings of the judiciary, but if he were to ask for specific advice on his decree nisi, that would be frowned upon. Of

course an actor may talk theatre with a member who happens to be a director. He could hardly fail to do so. But touting for parts? That would be another matter altogether.

All of which does not bring us any nearer to knowing why the modern Englishman remains so eminently clubbable. One view is that the middle and upper-class male, fed as he still is through a segregated system of education, is schooled to perpetuate and flourish in such climates. Few of the clubs whose secretaries belong to the Club Secretaries' Management Association offer full membership to women, even though, with the notable exception of White's, they see the necessity of admitting female guests so that the men are not alienated.

This second-class citizenship offered by the clubs - through suffrage not suffrage - is something that irks professional women, and not surprisingly. Watch out then for the Groucho Club, named after the famous Marx Brother who said he would never join one that would have him as a member. It is due to open next year and aims to fill the void left unmet by the 'sexist' institutions. The founding fathers/mothers include the chairman of Faber, the editor of *The Bookmaker* and two very forceful women from the publishing world. The co-ed format could be a winner (even if it does not lure the fellows away from the Athenaeum). Remember, it is catching on at Oxford.

Alan Franks

Penny Perick

Prepared to meet my food

The only time I have ever received a hostile postbag was after I made an approving reference to ready-prepared food. I had written that an outbreak of salmon mousse, chicken Kiev and damson sorbet on the supermarket shelves meant that women who were out at work all day could occasionally feed their friends as elegantly as those women who stayed home.

Reading the outraged letters that soon arrived, I wondered whether my meaning had been misconstrued, leading readers to suppose that I was running an illegal mah-hong racket when I should have been making mayonnaise.

One letter-writer said that she couldn't imagine a more ghastly way to live than to go from dinner party to dinner party being served the same shop-bought muck. She depicted her own life as an endless round of gourmandizing - fitting, or more probably, waddling, from house to house, with something completely different, involving hours of preparation, to eat at each one.

I find this odd. I too, from time to time, sit down at other people's dining tables and have noticed that different kinds of food, like different skirt lengths, go in and out of fashion.

When watercress sauce, monkfish or vegetable terrine enters its heyday, that is what you will get, whether you are being entertained in Swinton, Solihull or St Austell. Michael Frayn verified this in his novel, *Sweet Dreams*, where the hero is always given giant dagnoseaux legs. Nothing wrong with that, either. People go to their favourite restaurant to eat their favourite dish time and time again and make no end of a fuss if it's not on the menu.

We who have neither time nor inclination to cook, keep our fingers crossed that smoked tuna, which you can buy, will remain in fashion while cassoulet, which you can't, will go the way of tipples pudding and stuffed swan.

The other criticism levelled against shop-bought cuisine is that it violates the laws of hospitality which insist that every hostess, whether housewife or career woman, should be a martyr before the main event. Angela Rippon once told me that she always started the preparation for a dinner party four days beforehand because "if you started to think about it at 12 o'clock on the day itself, it wouldn't be much of a compliment to your guests".

Well, I don't know about that. I certainly wouldn't feel slighted if someone slipped out to raid Harrod's food hall minutes before my arrival instead of paying me the compliment of keeping something plain and wholesome simmering on the back burner days in advance.

Yet somehow food, unlike clothes or home furnishings, is expected to be homemade. "Did you make this yourself?" people rudely ask as they tuck into something perfectly delicious from the delicatessen and, in admitting that I did not, I feel both neglectful and profligate.

Even though I have earned the money, and thereby the right, to buy smoked haddock pâté in little fluted paper dishes, I begin to feel badly that I didn't do all that skinning and flaking and picking out needle-like bones myself. Maybe the first women who bought ready-to-wear clothes instead of making their own pin-tucks felt equally guilty.

Today, of course, it's perfectly all right to say you don't sew, for no one will suppose that because of this failing your children will go off to school dressed in rags. They will merely assume that you have an account at Mothercare. But just mention that you don't have time to make your own Christmas pudding and you will be made to feel that you are depriving your family of an indispensable emotional experience.

It is only recently that we who share the kitchen have dared to admit such bold behaviour.

What surprises me is that, in spite of the enormous sale of cookery books and the great popularity of TV programmes about cooking, everywhere I go I meet women who groan at the thought of all the meals they have already cooked and all those they will not be able to avoid cooking in the future. I may have to start a nationwide support group.

Finessing in clubs

PERSONALITY CHANGE

Cyril Ray, (right) journalist, member of the Athenaeum, Brooks's, MCC, Special Forces, Kildare Street and University (Dublin), the Horse Club

The Athenaeum and Brooks's are the only serious clubs I belong to. No club has kept exactly the personality it had when first founded. There's hardly one - White's and Boodle's are exceptions - that hasn't amalgamated or been swallowed up by others, chiefly for financial reasons. The whole of social life has changed.

Most of the clubs we are talking about were created when all services were grossly underpaid and we're still living in that atmosphere. People still grumble when subscriptions go up but we've never paid enough for our clubs. I was elected to the Athenaeum in 1956 when the subscription was 25 guineas a year. How absolutely absurd to think of that huge palace being kept waiting for you, cleaned, furnished and repaired for 10 shillings a week! Or today, when in Brooks's you have a beautiful Henry Holland house in St James's kept for your pleasure for £5 a week!

The Americans know better - they've always paid high subscriptions and the best run clubs in the western world are in the United States.

PAYING PARASITE

Lord Oaksey, (right) racing correspondent and commentator, a member of Brooks's

My earliest impressions of the club are entirely centred on a charming hall porter called Newman who, since I was taken by my father as a child, always seemed to know exactly what was going on in one's life.

Brooks's is geographically very handy. I'm afraid to say I do use it mainly as an office, often write there. They do a very good breakfast, quite a good lunch and a reasonable dinner, though I wouldn't make a detour.



I used to belong to White's as well. Walking down St James's one evening I met an old chum and asked him to come and have a drink in White's. After a while the secretary came up to me in the bar and mumbled "Excuse me, my Lord, could I have a word... do you know you are no longer a member?"

I was amazed, so he scurried away and came back with a letter regretting that I could no longer afford to be a member of two clubs. There was a beautiful forgery of my signature at the bottom. I had often discussed the matter with my wife, but had done nothing, so she had taken it into her own hands and cancelled my membership.

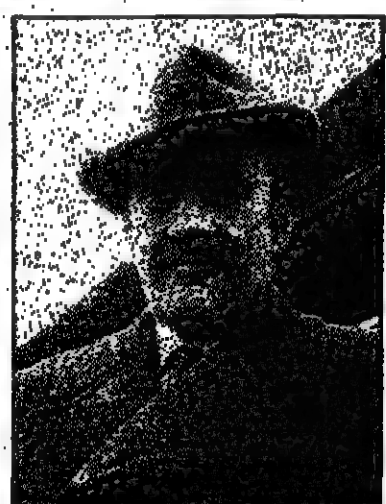
Am I a good club member? Absolutely not. A good one talks more. In that sense I'm a parasite, but a paying parasite.

CONVIVIALITY

Peter Aldersley, (left) secretary of the Savile Club

The word commercialization is still a dirty word in some clubs - but today a club has to be commercially run, to balance the books, in order to exist. I'm glad to say that the Savile has been more than self-sufficient in the last five or six years.

Members join for totally different reasons from those that applied before the war when it was almost a social stigma not to belong to a club. And to be black-balled was a real social disgrace. (You'd have to be very bad today to be expelled,



though you can still be suspended.) Nowadays people join clubs more for convenience than for social reasons - to have, if they work in London, somewhere to go to lunch or relax in the evenings; to have a club with valet service is a great advantage to someone who lives in the country, and of course we have members whose families have belonged to the Savile for generations.

The Savile is non-political. Conversation is part of our character. Our motto is "Socialites Convivium" (One in conviviality). No reading is allowed here in the public rooms.

No, we don't mind if a member gets drunk - I don't think any club does. Provide they don't break the furniture or misbehave, where better to do so than in one's second home?

NEW IMPETUS

Liz Calder, (right) editorial director of Jonathan Cape, who with several colleagues proposes to open a new club named The Groucho

We hope that the club will be in the heart of Bloomsbury, in Great Russell Street. We have found the premises and are having a feasibility study done - a financial breakdown looking at staffing, membership, subscriptions, all the practical details.

The idea of a club centred around publishers has been around for years. There is a lot of impetus now

for the idea, which really started when a bunch of people were idly pondering the fact that there was not much in the way of suitable or congenial venues for out-of-office get-togethers or lunching.

I see a lot of authors, writers. I don't like pubs and can't belong to existing clubs, either because I'm a woman or I don't want to. One wants a place where one is not only a member but has certain rights - where one can go and be welcomed, not admitted under sufferance.

I do think some women feel very strongly about this - but, equally, women who feel that men should not be allowed are just as silly as those who implement the 'men only' rule. We don't have to stoop to their level. It won't be exclusively a publisher's club.



NICE ECCENTRICS

Nigel Havers, (left) actor and a member of the Garrick

I think I'm the youngest member the Garrick has ever had - I joined the club 10 years ago when I was 22. It was a wonderful night. We had a three-generation dinner. (My father and grandfather were both members and my father said I must join, it would be a great asset.) It's a wonderful place to take children. I was taken for Sunday lunch as a child and often take my wife and six-year-old daughter now. It's not a real male domain. Enjoying female company as much as I do, I think a club without women is terrible.



GOOD MANAGEMENT

Paul Meritt, (left) secretary of the Club Secretaries and Managers Association and secretary of the City of London Club

We are strictly an association of the people running the clubs, not the clubs themselves. Our requirement is that our members have professional qualifications in catering or accountancy. We are 12 members from 12 of the top London clubs. (White's, Brooks's, Boodle's, Garrick, Savile, Chariton, Reform, Royle, Overseas League, United Oxford and Cambridge, RAC, City of London, Arts Club), and one associate member in Scotland.

The essence of financial responsibility to one's club is to see that it is professionally managed. So many clubs, sadly, have ceased to exist. We've completely renovated our club in the past three or four years: old furniture replaced, new carpets, curtains, but the strongest complaint we've had was from a member who didn't approve of us removing tableclothes and having polished tables, as they do in most clubs.

I think application for membership to clubs is fairly static at the moment - though some have increased their membership. As far as letting ladies in, there are inevitably changes afoot, but a club as a private institution is entitled to make up its own mind.

Judy Froshang

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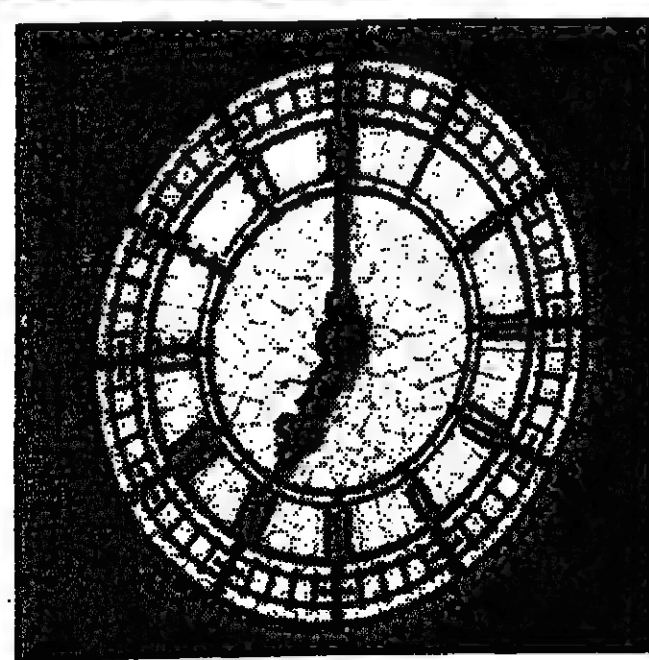
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| Allied Unit Trusts | 2,578 | |
| Other Unit Trusts | 8,013 | |
| Hambro Life Investment Bonds | 2,809 | |
| Other Investment Bonds | 2,510 | |
| Other Investments | 1,000 | |
| PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT SERVICE | | 51,229 |
| UK Gifted Securities | 3,550 | |
| UK Equities | 31,246 | |
| Overseas Securities | 12,783 | |
| Capital Account Balance | 1,830 | |
| NET ASSETS IN FMP | | 76,837 |

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THE TIMES DIARY

Undiplomatic

A poignant scene at last week's farewell party for John Louis, the outgoing US Ambassador, at his London residence, Ted Heath and Lord Hailsham were seen to settle at opposite ends of a long, otherwise empty sofa, whereupon a loyal member of Mrs Thatcher's Cabinet was heard to mutter: "How's that for arsenic and old lace?"

Eurogaic

Tory Island is a community of 160-odd Gaelic-speaking souls getting by as best they can in the stormy Atlantic off the coast of Donegal. It is shaped a bit like ET, and to the sophisticated denizens of Strabough the priest-led denigration from Tory that recently descended upon the European Parliament seeking cash for urgently needed development must have seemed the next thing to an invasion from outer space. The Gaelic *Thoiraidhe* carries strong connotations of "robber" and "outlaw" and was first applied to the Irish Roman Catholics who opposed the English during the seventeenth century; its anglicized adoption by the Whigs to describe supporters of the Crown came later. Now they Tory folk are poor but honest fishermen and farmers, whose repeated calls for a suitable ferry service or financial help to build a safe harbour at Baile Thiar have earned them the support of the formidable Winnie Ewing, Scottish Nationalist MEP for the Highlands and Islands. The latest betting is that this improbable new Tory alliance will sweep to Eurocratic victory or long.

BARRY FANTONI



"Sorry, mein Herr, the tree is closed today."

Injured pride

My colleague Brian Jackman, who writes on travel and conservation for *The Sunday Times*, is the object of a subtle if belated pasting in this month's *Oryx*, the learned journal of the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, for his book *The Marsh Lions: the story of an African pride* published by Hamish Hamilton last year. The reviewer is Norman Myers, a biologist who spent much of his working life in Kenya and achieved some notoriety a few years ago with his popular writings on the rate at which species and their habitats are vanishing: one extinction every five minutes, an area the size of Printing House Square every three and a quarter hours, that sort of thing. In his review, Myers deftly deplores Jackman's device of "personalizing" his lions by giving them names. The story occasionally and explicitly wanders off into fiction, in order to fill gaps in the epic story of the pride, he adds. Nor is Myers enamoured of the author's occasionally "over-florid" style: "Why should a hippo possess 'wickedly jutting teeth, and why should a buffalo's horns feature a 'vicious' curve? And what is a 'nation' of wildebeest?" The reviewer concludes that he will "reassure this book for its style and spirit rather than for its substance". As a sometime connoisseur of conservationist bickery, I shall treasure Myers' review for the same reasons.

● This is the last column for some time to be written from an exclusively male point of view. From tomorrow, the diary is to undergo a sex change and PHS will be a woman. I do not presume to speak for my successor, but it seems to me extremely unlikely that wiccans of the "PH-ette" variety will be much appreciated.

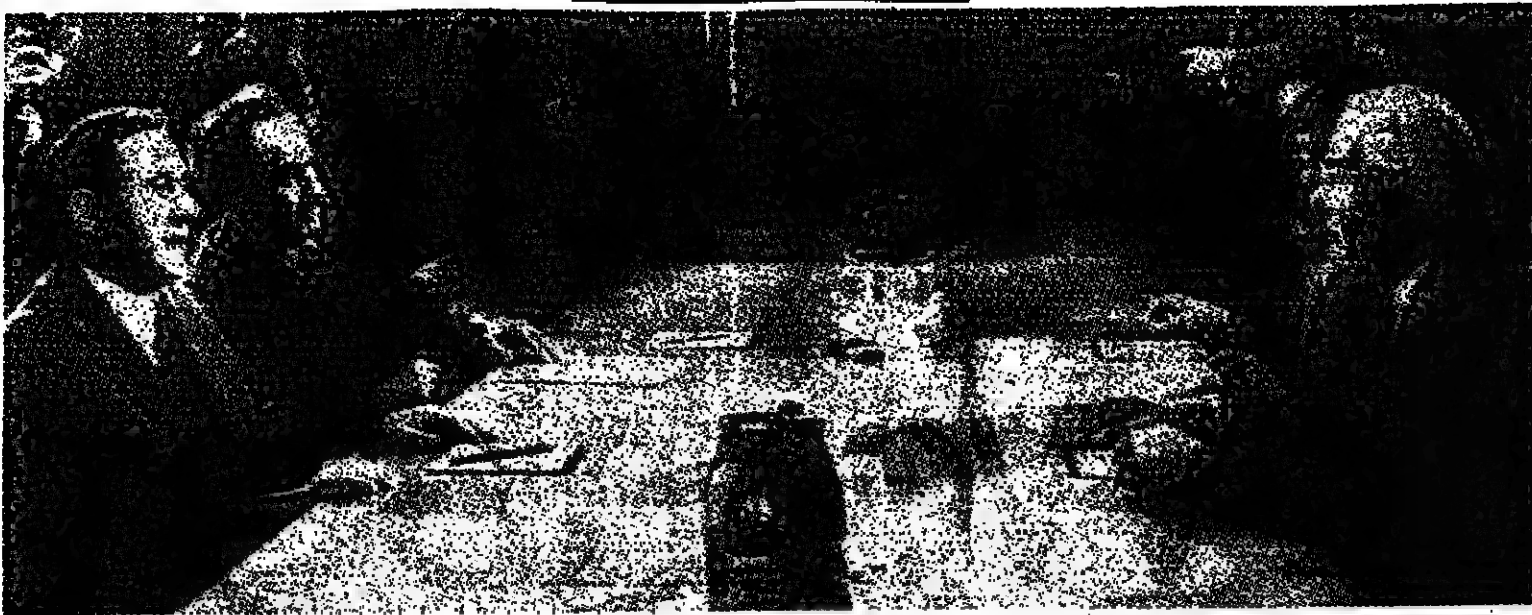
Oxford is worried about the weather. Has it gone mad? It wonders. "Freak weather" conditions around the globe are threatening the lives and livelihoods, crops and homes of millions of the world's poorest people. More than 40 developing countries are suffering the effects of flood or drought. Some of the blame, Oxford surmises, can be traced to the peregrinations of El Niño de Navidad, the Christ Child, a mysterious warm current in the Pacific that takes its name from its tendency to appear around Christmas, with a major surge every seven to 10 years. In 1972 it destroyed ten Peruvian fishing industry and last year's upwelling was "the most severe on record. It raised the sea level off Peru by about seven inches and the temperature by seven degrees centigrade", more than double previous records. An enormous rotating system of trade winds, known as the Walker Cell after Sir Gilbert of that ilk, aggravated, as usual, the effects of the Niño. Not that weather is to blame for everything. The poor, Oxford notes appositely, "are like the people in the Chinese proverb, living up to their necks in water - so it only needs a ripple to drown them."

PHS

Megaphone diplomacy will not make the world a safer place

Let's be realistic about Russia

by James Callaghan



Face to face with the Russians: Mr Callaghan meets the Soviet Foreign Minister, Andrei Gromyko, in Moscow last week.

The visitor to Moscow, after an absence of several years, at once notices that people in the street are more warmly dressed, there are more private cars about and traffic jams appear in the rush hour. The countryside is also changing. In one *Sovkhoz* an hour's drive from Volgograd, about half the villagers have built their own small homes with half an acre of land apiece. But the land is poor. Not even the 1,000 tractors and 100 combines can produce big crops from virgin land, lacking humus, under-fertilized and short of rainfall. Yields are terribly low.

The familiar shortcomings of the Soviet economy are still present, as ministers will admit. But, for the first time, I heard more questioning about the best means to make the economy function well. This self-questioning illustrated a greater air of self-assurance and less defensiveness in official circles, although the bureaucracy was as obtrusive as ever.

Unless we in the West understand the way the Russians think about themselves, we are unlikely to devise successful policies. They are a tough, conservative, tenacious and patriotic people, with which goes a fierce nationalism. For the West to denounce publicly their leaders as evil men is not sufficient foundation for an effective western foreign policy. And as neither President Reagan nor Mrs Thatcher has any intention of launching a war to remove the system, they had better start to devise a less simplistic approach to regulating East-West relations in a highly dangerous world.

I refer not only to the danger from a grossly excessive nuclear armory, but also to the potential for regional conflict in third area countries that by indirectly involving the super powers could become a dangerous flash-point.

There are three essential elements to Soviet foreign policy: security, equality and ideology. Of these, ideology comes last. The Russians are realists: they are concerned not

only with what should be done, but with what can be done.

In security matters, the dominant theme in Russian thinking is the scarring experience left by the Nazi invasion, with the enemy overrunning large tracts of territory to the gates of Leningrad and almost to Moscow, millions dead and a scorched earth policy to win "The Patriotic War".

President Roosevelt was so affected by the total destruction of Stalingrad, with the loss of whole armies in the eight-month battle around the city, that the Americans proposed that the ruins be left as a permanent memorial to the horrors of war, and a new town be built elsewhere.

The Soviet leaders are determined that this must not happen again. And it has led them to an obsessive and excessive concern about their security and to sweep on one side those who might endanger it.

As to equal status, the Soviet Union believes that, despite its economic shortcomings, it is the one country that can deploy the strength of a superpower and rank with the United States. In almost every conversation with Soviet officials, it is to their relationship with the United States that discussions tend to return.

France, West Germany and Britain are important countries in their struggle for influence. But they see us and the rest of the world, not always excluding China, as a function of Soviet-US relationships. They believed that they had won their claim to equal status when the SALT I agreement was signed in 1972, and they were disappointed when the US failed to ratify SALT II and Congress attempted to impose conditions upon them. This was seen as a challenge to their right to equal status. They are not likely to back down now, and this has important consequences for western arms control policy. The Russians deny our claim that the deployment of Pershing and cruise is a proper reply to the SS20. Although they would still like, if possible, to

prevent this deployment from being realized, they know there is little chance, and now their main preoccupation is to gauge the nature and extent of their response. In my view, this will be conditioned to some extent by the fact that the first batch of western missiles is small in number. They acknowledge that these moves and counter moves will complicate even further a complex situation and contain serious elements of danger. The sense of insecurity will be increased on both sides, and this will create uncertainty that will radiate from one to the other.

Notwithstanding, I believe it will still be possible to break the circle of escalation, even if the present intermediate Nuclear Force talks break down. If both sides genuinely seek agreement, then procedurally and excessive concern about their security must be an end to making proposals from public platforms, and also an end to the semi-public disclosure of proposals made in private by the other side.

The essence of a successful negotiation would be that both sides emerged feeling that their security had been enhanced and not diminished. The talks on intermediate range missiles will prove much more sticky than those on strategic arms. The situation will get worse before it gets better.

But in a strange way, the current deterioration in relations, together with the economic cost of arms escalation, may bring a greater sense of realism to both sides. If the present talks break down, then after a period of reflection both sides should come forward with new sets of proposals presented in private and negotiated without publicity.

The Russians claim that they do not despair. "Pessimism and fatalism are brothers. In private conversation there is an absence of vitriol or ideology, and a willingness to deal with arguments on their merits. As to relations between our own country and the Soviet Union, the British Government must be much more active in its diplomacy. This need not require us to temper

our disapproval of the Soviet attitude towards human rights, dissidents or Jewish emigration.

Across the Channel, both France and Germany are as firm as we are, but they have not stood in the way of visits by Chancellor Kohl to Moscow or of Mr Gromyko to Paris. As a consequence, Britain stands lower in the bidding order than our two neighbours, and our views are taken less into account. The result of the recent stridency of British Government speeches is that Britain cannot immediately resume relations at the same high level as France and Germany. But we can initiate talks at certain levels, and conduct a dialogue on a wide range of political issues.

Then there is trade. The British Airways plane on which I returned home carried a number of British businessmen who had been engaged in the arduous task of seeking business in the Soviet Union. They find the going tough, and the state of our political relationship makes it no easier. Nevertheless, high ranking Soviet officials were ready to volunteer, even before I asked, that good opportunities exist for increasing Anglo-Soviet trade, and I deduce that the Conservative Government had gained at least some good marks because of its attitude towards the pipeline sanctions of a year ago.

My visit was well worthwhile. For a few days it directed Soviet attention to British views at a high level and after too long an absence. It was possible to argue differences in a logical, rational way, and that process should continue.

The massive demonstrations held throughout Europe last Saturday were impressive in their demand for peace. The British Government should give up its megaphone diplomacy, and be in the lead to discover whether behind the rhetoric Soviet policy will be guided not by texts but by what is realistic and practicable to enhance the prospects of peace in a world in which the margin of safety is steadily shrinking.

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Nixon beats the press to print



In the afternoon, Mr Nixon returned to Saddle River (driven by Secret Service men) and revised the printed copy. Nine meticulously edited drafts later, *Real Peace* was electronically transmitted to four micro-computer diskettes and sent to the Enquire publishing company.

Each VIP recipient of *Real Peace* will find a small blue card explaining that "this is one of 1,000 copies of the private, limited edition of 'Real Peace'... which is a white lie. Actually, Mr Nixon contracted for 10,000 copies of the book to be printed. His staff, when queried on this particular fine point, indicated that he ordered his books before Little, Brown & Co stepped in with a "quickly" book offer. By then it was too late to stop the Enquire presses. Little Brown will publish its version of *Real Peace* in January.

"We were all set to send out about five or six thousand copies," said John Taylor, a Nixon assistant. "But now that the book is coming out commercially, that doesn't make

sense. We don't wish to interfere with Little Brown's efforts to promote it."

What happens to the remaining books, which were lining the halls of Nixon's suite in boxes of 200 copies each?

"I guess we're just going to save the other 9,000 for posterity," Mr Taylor said.

Far from interfering with Little Brown's efforts, Mr Nixon's actions, whether or not so calculated, exhibit the finesse of a master publicist. In early September, he sent bound galley proofs of *Real Peace* to 115 politicians, journalists and powerfully positioned friends, including a Henry Kissinger and the present Secretary of State, George Shultz. Very rapidly, the New York Times Syndication Service acquired the rights to *Real Peace*, and began offering the work to publishers. Mr Nixon supplied "blurbs" of praise from friends who had read galley proofs, an obvious choice, turned the book down because of Mr Nixon's insistence that it be

published quickly. Little Brown accepted the challenge in mid-September.

Roger Donald, Little Brown's executive editor, called the book "fascinating" and "powerful", adding: "Of course, I can't think of an ex-president who has made this kind of policy statement before. It's a compact, closely reasoned argument for a Western strategy vis-a-vis the Soviet Union."

Mr Donald, who declined to reveal either Mr Nixon's advance on the volume of Little Brown's first press run, appears unperturbed by Mr Nixon's *santitas* publishing operation, although he has a contractual agreement with the former president that precludes Mr Nixon from distributing more than 1,000 free books.

"It's nice advance publicity," Mr Donald said. "Probably, he's sending them to the same people we would send them to."

Would Little Brown have thought to send copies to the Pope, the Queen or the Soviet president?

"Well," Mr Donald said, "if he gets good quotes from them, I'll be delighted."

From Moscow, at least, the reviews are unlikely to be raves. Mr Nixon describes communism as "an ideological bubonic plague" and characterizes Mr Andropov as a "ruthless" man with "global ambitions".

As for domestic reviews, with this vanity edition, Mr Nixon has stolen a three-month march on local critics and delivered his opinions, throughout the world, unlicked around by the press.

Hillary Johnson

© Wall Street Journal

Getting it right for our names' sake

New words for old/Philip Howard

ently that of the diarist, Samuel; and this is the pronunciation used today by the Pepys Cockerell family, lineal descendants of the diarist's sister Paulina.

Take those names, presumably Norman French, that begin with *Beau*. They offer as much variety in pronunciation as there are vowels to choose from: Beauchamp (beecham), Beaucherk (bockair), Beaulieu (bevil), and Beaudesert in Warwickshire (either bodessert or, just to be difficult, belzer).

In English generally there is a movement towards pronouncing a word as it is spelled, except foreign words, which, perhaps because of the increase in tourism, are increasingly tend to pronounce with the imagined native accent, and for names, which remain marvellously odd and idiosyncratic.

To help its staff and the rest of us through this minefield of nomenclature, the BBC has just published a

new edition of its *Pronouncing Dictionary of British Names*, edited by G. E. Poinsett. It represents more than 50 years of research into the tricky business of British names, and lists more than 20,000 difficult names with their pronunciations drawn from the Corporation's pronunciation unit.

The Corp. knows that a mispronounced name causes more offence even than a properly pronounced improper word. And it goes to considerable pains to see that its announcers get the pronunciation of this kind of name right. "Right" means that surnames should be pronounced as the bearer of the name herself or himself prefers, and that place-names should be pronounced as the local inhabitants pronounce them.

In many cases the post office, the vicar, the library or the police station, have been consulted to establish exactly how the people who live there pronounce their village or

town name. People with difficult names have been invited to pronounce it definitively for the rest of us.

These are tricky and tongue-twisting territories, say masters, with names such as Feveryear (fev-yeer), O'Cann (o-ka-hoy), and MacGill-leathleath (mach-gill-leath-leath), with the stress on the "leath" and the ch as in "loch", living in places called Portwick (poz-zick), Costessey (kossi), and Troedrhiv-fawch (forget it). Palgrave of the *Golden Treasury* should be palgray; other Palgraves prefer pawgray; and woe betide the ignoramus who mixes up his Palgraves.

Not even the BBC can establish the truth in all these matters of pronunciation: punnett. Of Bobbingworth in Essex its *Pronouncing Dictionary* remarks enigmatically: "the post office is Bobinger". It is a useful little word-book of etiquette. On the other hand, it might so inhibit one with the terror of names that one never called anybody by his or her name again, making do with "dear boy" or "old girl".

Anne Sofer

Why the work ethic is not working

Over the past few weeks commentators have been whipping up quite a froth over the issue of politicians' moral leadership. Should they be showing people how to lead their lives? Or is that an absurd and outdated principle?

As usual, a debate on morals gets exciting only when people assume it is sexual morals: we are talking about. I have heard every possible view expressed, that politicians in their sexual lives should be beyond reproach, or alternatively no different from the rest of the world; that the public enjoys a degree of flamboyant irregularity in their leaders, or alternatively that anything is permissible as long as it is kept quiet. On this issue muddle reigns in the public mind - but at least everybody has had plenty of opportunity to discuss it.

Not so on the wider issue of moral leadership. Should politicians be setting values, talking about how life should be lived? There is a popular recoil from the notion. Government, it is felt, is there to make laws and manage the economy.

That sounds good. But it ignores the fact that economic and legislative decisions inevitably convey strong moral messages. And the moral messages being conveyed by those in power at present are as confused as their new equivalent espousal of "Victorian values". I am not even talking for the moment about the Government's attitude to public health and the social services, but about an even more fundamental and vexing question: its attitude to the work ethic. Does Mrs Thatcher believe that the work ethic is the linch-pin of our social order, or not? If she does, how can she tolerate that line of millions unemployed stretching out to the crack of dawn? If she does not, what other sense of purpose in life is she going to give them?

I recently reread Aldous Huxley's *Point Counter Point*, regarded as seminal when it was published in 1928 and still going strong as an essential item on any world-beat intellectual's reading list in my own student days in the mid-1950s. It has since dropped from view, but it makes ironically relevant reading today. In it the D. H. Lawrence-based character, Mark Remington, preaches against industrial society: "One thing they're all agreed on - Tories, Liberals, Socialists, Bohemians - is the intrinsic excellence of the industrial state and the necessity of standardising and disciplining every trace of genuine passion or womanhood out of the human race".

The laze, he admits, cannot be undone. Workers have got to spend "eight hours out of every 24 as a mixture between an imbecile and a sewing machine", humiliating and disgusting though that is. The proper attitude of workers to this degradation should be to "admit it's dirty,

hold your nose and do it for eight hours and then concentrate on being a real human being in your leisure. A real complete being. Not a newspaper reader, not a jazzer, not a radio fan."

Now while this view of the complete life seems unduly restricted (jazz is definitely deemed these days to be life-enhancing, though I'm not sure about newspapers), this voice, this insistence that there is a purpose in life beyond the jobs rat race is missing today.

For instance, for all the lip-service paid to voluntary work in the community, what status does it really have? Young people in particular have been conditioned to associate it with timetable filling for the lower streams at school, and after school as an appropriate sentence for young criminals. Mrs Thatcher transparently sees it as a way of "rolling back the frontiers of the state" and cutting jobs in the public sector, not as a worthwhile thing in itself.

And what about education? Is the Government's message to young people: "Now is your chance! There won't be work for you for a few years but you can use the time to learn more, widen your horizons, develop your skills." Not a bit of it. There are financial inducements to get young people out of education at the earliest opportunity and financial penalties if they try to get back. The message young people are getting - particularly those coming off government training schemes and finding no jobs - is that it is only the academic high flyers or those whose parents can support them whom society is interested in educating. The law does not allow them to draw the dole and study full-time - even if they can get a place on a course.

I notice with interest that Harold Macmillan has recommended that Mrs Thatcher read Jane Austen. In the context it seemed like a prescription for soothing the mind rather than influencing political direction. But Jane Austen is wholly relevant to the present discussion. Her novels are full almost exclusively of people who are not gainfully employed, and who yet have a very lively sense that they are leading complete lives, whatever they might seem to us today. They are filled with the minutiae of developing relationships and the interpretation of manners. And who is to say that is a lesser justification for existence than eight hours a day on the factory floor?

This is a debate which politicians are backing away from, and in doing so are leaving millions of people with the feeling that society sees no value in them at all. This is a gross failure of moral leadership beside which the little love affairs of cabinet ministers are insignificant.

The author is SDP member of the GLC/LEA for Camden, St Pancras North.

Gerald Kaufman

Yes, Prime Minister: the way to office

At approximately 2.35 this afternoon Nicholas Ridley will for the first time stand at the Government Dispatch Box in the House of Commons to answer parliamentary questions as the new Secretary of State for Transport.

In 1972, Mr Ridley, then Parliamentary Secretary for Trade and Industry, was dropped by Mr Edward Heath because the criteria for Conservative ministerial appointments have changed.

Apart from a beleaguered and diminishing band - Lords Whitlaw and Hailsham, James Prior, Peter Walker, John Biffen, probably Michael Heseltine - Mrs Thatcher has not chosen men and women for high office because they represent an indispensable Tory point of view or because they symbolise an important Tory interest.

These days they are selected either because (like Nigel Lawson, Sir Keith Joseph, Norman Tebbit, and now Mr Ridley) they have agreed with Mrs Thatcher at least one because they can be counted on to agree with whatever view she may hold at any given time; this latter group includes Leon Brittan, Norman Fowler, Patrick Jenkin and the paradigm, Tom King, the Mr Celluloid of the Cabinet, equally amenable at Environment, Transport or Employment or whatever department in which he might be deposited.

Cabinet government used to function with a prime minister, first among equals, seeking to achieve consensus among his or her colleagues by the process of rational argument and persuasion. Now, apart from a few isolated exceptions, it consists of deliberately hand-picked cronies and clones who agree in principle at the beginning of the discussion their only differences (as in the current round of expenditure cuts) arising from conflicting departmental interests. What we have today is government by place men; and the nature of the Cabinet inevitably affects the quality of the politicians who are appointed.

Place men are generally, almost by definition, people of little quality, and since Mrs Thatcher herself is an aberration from traditional Tories, it follows that there are insufficient men and women among her parliamentary followers who can combine committed or acquired Thatcherism with genuine ability.

What has further depressed the level of government in the James Ruffin is not so much that the Prime Minister needed a substitute Thatcherite to replace the lost Thatcherite Cecil Parkinson; it is that the only available Thatcherite whom she could bring herself to promote to Cabinet rank is someone whom the last Tory prime minister

did not want as a parliamentary secretary.

Even Mrs Thatcher flinched from appointing to the Cabinet her new party chairman, the ineffable John Selwyn Gummer, whose enthusiastic sycophancy is reminiscent of the Squealer, the porcine party liner in George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, who had "twaddling eyes, nimble movements and a shrill voice... a way of skipping from side to side and winking his tail".

As for Mr Parkinson, the real question is not whether he should have resigned from the Cabinet but what on earth a man of his strictly limited capabilities was ever doing there in the first place.

What is especially lamentable is that the Tory benches in Parliament are perfectly capable of providing a Cabinet of considerable quality. Among junior ministers, such as William Waldegrave, Malcolm Rifkind, Kenneth Clarke, Christopher Paten and Paul Channon are superior in ability to most of their heads of department.

On the back benches here languishes a Cabinet in exile, greatly superior to those who actually ride in the Rovers and have keys to the back boxes: Francis Pym, Geoffrey Rippon, Mark Carver, Edward du Cann, Sir Ian Gilmour, Ted Heigham, not to mention Edward Heath, are a far stronger group than any seven in the Cabinet itself.

Robin Squire, Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Stephen Dorrell, Janet Fookes, Richard Shepherd, Nigel Forman, David Knox, Michael Jackson, James Lester, Anthony Nelson, Robert Rhodes James, all wasted, precious abilities markedly superior to those of dozens of faceless hacks who fill up the forest of ministers of state and parliamentary under-secretaries. Their fatal handicap is that they think for themselves.

Once, at the beginning of the nineteenth century, there was a government (under Grenville) which was satirically dubbed the Ministry of all the talents. No one, however satirically, would apply such a sobriquet to the administration over which Mrs Thatcher presides, the largest, incidentally, ever to rule this country.

The Conservative Party is not starved of talent but is led by someone less interested in talent than in conformity, less concerned with consensus than with assent. Mrs Thatcher enjoys the biggest Tory majority for half a century. If we have to have so many Conservative MPs, it is sad that their leader either does not know how or even worse, does not wish, to place the abilities of the best of them at the service of the nation.

The author is Labour MP for Manchester, Gorton.



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CARNAGE IN BEIRUT

The latest killings in Beirut are no less shocking for having been predictable. These were not acts of war, but atrocities against peace-keepers whose role is to be non-combatant. It was, however, foreseeable even a year ago, when the multinational force went back to Beirut in the wake of the Sabra-Chatila massacre, that it would not get out again without incurring heavy casualties. Violence had become so endemic in Lebanon, with so many parties involved, both internal and external, that the violence could hardly be ended on terms acceptable to all of them. That being so, whatever force tried to put an end to it was bound to become a target for those parties which felt they stood to lose if it were ended at that time and on those terms. In other words, the force could hardly escape becoming a party in the next phase of the struggle.

Had that been made fully clear to the Americans, French, Italian and British peoples at the time, perhaps it would not have been politically possible to send the force. This newspaper argued, in September 1982, that what was needed was something going beyond a conventional peace-keeping operation and amounting almost to a new mandate to replace the various occupying forces in Lebanon, re-fashion the institutions of the country, and enable it to return to independence on a new basis.

Probably it was unrealistic to suppose that Western countries had the degree of interest and political will to embark knowingly on a task of that magnitude. Perhaps no Western leader would have dared to tell his or her people that they were being committed to an enterprise in Lebanon in which hundreds of their soldiers might be killed, and which might last several years. As it was the leaders in question pretended, no doubt deceiving themselves in

the process, that this was a simple peace-keeping job that would not involve any actual fighting and would be over in a few months, once Lebanon had been helped through a difficult spot.

That was one mistake. A second, made more particularly by the United States, was to assume that, since President Amin Gemayel had been elected unanimously by the Lebanese Parliament, his policies must reflect a national consensus, so that in strengthening his regime and his army, and helping them to overcome opposition, the multinational force would be rising above the factional-communal struggle and assisting in the restoration of an impartial and genuinely national state.

That assumption neglected both the very imperfectly representative character of a ten-year-old parliament and the peculiarities of the circumstances in which the vote was taken. It ignored the fact that President Gemayel, however well-intentioned personally, belongs to and was all but prisoner of one particular Lebanese faction - the very faction which had carried out the massacre, and other massacres before it, and which was consequently hated and feared by very large numbers of Lebanese.

That is not to say that yesterday's terrible carnage should be regarded as the work of Lebanese alone. The hands that transported and detonated the explosives may well have been Lebanese, but behind them, no doubt, stand foreign powers. If the attacks were the work of the "national resistance front" whose leaders include communists, then naturally one must suspect Soviet involvement. If they were carried out by "Amal" or another Shiite group, then suspicion turns to Iran. It is not at all impossible that both the Soviet Union and Iran could be

involved, through their respective proxies, though highly unlikely that they are in direct collaboration with each other.

The question which must be debated with greatest anxiety, in Beirut and in Western capitals, is whether Syria was also a party to the plot. Neither group would find it easy to bring that quantity of explosives to Beirut without some degree of Syrian connivance, but that does not automatically imply that Syria was privy to the use to which the explosives were put.

On this point, two hypotheses are tenable in the present state of our knowledge. One is that Syria is not ready for a settlement of the Lebanese conflict based on the present imbalance of forces, and therefore wishes further to erode Western willpower before allowing the process of national reconciliation to go ahead. The other is that, on the contrary, Syria, having succeeded at last in getting the Reagan administration to take her seriously, is now moving cautiously towards a deal with the United States - a deal which the sponsors of yesterday's attack must be determined if possible to abort. The second hypothesis is clearly the more hopeful from the Western and Lebanese points of view, and so long as it is tenable the most important thing for the West to do is to avoid any action which might jeopardize it.

In either case, it is now as impossible politically to pull the multinational force out. Militarily, there are no doubt new dispositions to be taken for its protection. But, above all, the West must not abandon the attempt to secure a negotiated settlement in Lebanon which takes account of Syrian as well as Western interests, and of the interests of the Lebanese communities which look to each side for protection and support. What has happened is a test of Western nerves, but more so of Western statesmanship.

BATTLE JOINS IN PARLIAMENT

The first session of the new Parliament was opened by the Queen in June, but today's reassembly is its true beginning. As so often happens, an autumn conference season, which in prospect seemed likely to be banal and unilluminating, has transformed the political landscape since the summer of Mrs Thatcher's triumph.

After her victory in June, the conventional wisdom (which may yet turn out to be correct) was that Mrs Thatcher's government was in a position of unchallenged supremacy. The Labour Party, dragged down by the virulence of its extremists, seemed to be in its final decline, and the logic of the situation suggested some kind of political realignment to produce a left-of-centre party more acceptable to the electorate. The SDP-Liberal Alliance was held to be the most likely agent of such a change. Indeed, the most practical question in the summer seemed to be whether the Alliance could take Labour's place as the principal challenger to Mrs Thatcher before the next election.

The picture today is suddenly much more foggy. It has been changed to Mrs Thatcher's disadvantage partly by her very success. There is a dialectic in democratic politics which moves defeated parties to modify their own position to take account of the voters' verdict against them. Without acknowledging that they are doing so, the rejected parties try, so far as political principle allows, to remedy what the electorate dislikes in them, and to satisfy what it likes about their successful foes. It was an implicit acknowledgment that Mrs Thatcher was changing the shape of the political debate when Dr David Owen accepted for the SDP Mrs Thatcher's "tough" policies of efficiency and competitiveness, albeit offset by a stress on the "tender" qualities of the welfare state.

An even more significant sign of Mrs Thatcher's success was evident when Labour left-wingers began extolling the virtues of housewifery and even council house sales, and when the

party leadership began to retreat over withdrawal from the EEC and scrapping of the Poll Tax. But as well as the dialectic of democracy, personality factors have also contributed to the change of atmosphere.

There was, for instance, the renewed evidence of the collective personality problems of the Liberal Party which make it an uneasy ally for the more practical SDP, and of policy differences between them as well. At the same time, Labour acquired a new leader who shows more willingness to seek compromises in his party and who offers a more attractive public face than his predecessor. So, suddenly the Conservative lead in the polls is falling. Labour is catching Mrs Thatcher up and the Alliance is back around its old, dispiriting 20 per cent.

In part, this reflects not simply the differing luck of the opposition parties but a considerable hamfistedness in the government's political behaviour, particularly over its spending economies and their impact on the welfare state. When times were hard and inflation threatened to wreck society, it was easier for the government to preach a simple message of austerity and obtain public acceptance than it is now that the corner has been turned.

Public spending has to be curtailed; on the other hand, Mrs Thatcher is rightly committed to preserving the essential services of the welfare state. Having taken so much responsibility on itself, the state cannot withdraw without taking the greatest care that no harm is done. What is needed is systematic reform that defines priorities in a way that is acceptable to the public. Improvisation may have to do for this coming year's economies, but in the long run that is not enough. Lord Whitelaw's "star chamber" cabinet committee, which has been assigned the task of mediating over public spending arguments for this year could well be given the longer term assignment of working out spending priorities to be financed from a

public purse that is not bottomless.

The government wants to have its cake and eat it, and in a sense that is a right instinct. It knows spending must be cut and borrowing kept down if inflation is not to return and if growth is to be sustained. It knows that tax-cutting, especially for the lower paid, is necessary to stimulate the economy. But it also knows that not only equity but sensible politics require it to take the public with it on spending cuts, particularly where the social services are affected. If it does not, it risks the loss of the third term of office which Mrs Thatcher aims at, and of throwing away much of what has been achieved.

The strength of the challenge Mrs Thatcher now faces in parliament, and the skill with which she puts her case will be all-important for the government's chances. It remains to be seen whether the Labour Party can pull its warring wings together and whether there is really a place in it for the moderates, or whether they will simply be tolerated as sapping for a much more bitter kind of socialist pill. On the evidence so far, the left has undergone no real change of heart but merely a change of tactics. Even so, that could be dangerous for the Conservatives if Mrs Thatcher does not carry the country with her, and for the future political consensus of the nation if the Alliance continues to falter.

Successful government is government not merely by reluctant consent but with approval, which is not to say that a government should debate its message to win popularity but that it should be accepted as governing fairly, compassionately and justly. It is not easy to reconcile as many conflicting aims as Mrs Thatcher must now attempt to do, but after all the business of politics is devising acceptable priorities. The flavour of the party-battle in parliament this autumn will be the best evidence we have had since the election of the government's chances of success.

Saturation bombing

From Mrs S. V. T. B. Williams
Sir, I was interested to read the article in your issue of October 15 of Dr George Bell, Bishop of Chichester, on the occasion of the centenary of his birth.

One of the forgotten pages of history is Dr Bell's courageous campaign against the saturation bombing of German cities. Early in February, 1944, Dr Bell spoke in the House of Lords about the destruction of Hamburg, with the loss of 70,000 lives. He had learned the facts on a visit to Sweden.

The Air Ministry at the time denied that there had been mass bombing of civilians and affirmed

that only military targets had been attacked. In the same month my mother, Vera Britain, published a pamphlet called *Seed of Chaos: What Mass Bombing Really Means*, which was published in Britain by the Bombing Restriction Committee (with which Dr Bell was associated) and in the United States in February, 1944, issue of *Fellowship*, the journal of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. It gave detailed facts and sources, confirming that Britain and the United States had indeed embarked on a conscious policy of destroying German and other enemy cities regardless of the loss of civilian life.

Like Dr Bell, my mother was denounced on both sides of the

Atlantic in newspaper articles, legislatures and sermons. Only a handful of Protestant clergy, the magazines *Catholic World* and *Commonweal* and the liberal Episcopalian *Christian Century* gave any support to her views.

It is ironic that, after the war, research showed that Germany mobilised a far larger proportion of its population following the onset of saturation bombing than it had done before. The abandonment of the values the Allies claimed to hold dear achieved no substantial military advantage.

Yours sincerely,
SHIRLEY WILLIAMS,
4 Cowley Street, SW1.
October 19.

Effect of cut in NHS budget

From Dr N. P. Mallick and others
Sir, The Government has a sound case in seeking for the efficient use of resources in the National Health Service. However, the relevant Act requires the Minister of Health to "promote the effective provision of services for the treatment of illness". There is a crisis of confidence in the Government's will to see that this essential principle is maintained. Sadly, this has been evident in services such as ours.

The United Kingdom has lagged far behind most European countries in providing facilities to treat terminal renal failure. Increasingly, it is clear that this situation will be aggravated by the financial constraints now being imposed. Already in our north-western region - generally sympathetic to improving facilities for treating patients with renal failure - the budget for 1983/84 has had to be trimmed considerably.

In our unit we shall have enough money to manage this year, only because of delays in completing essential building work. We look with anxiety to the financial provision for subsequent years, wondering if we will be able to maintain the present facilities let alone improve them. Particularly for those vulnerable members of society who have difficulty in providing self help, the chances of receiving treatment are receding.

From open correspondence between the President of the British Kidney Patients Association, Mrs Elizabeth Ward, and the Prime Minister's private secretary, it appears that the Government sees the financial constraints on the health service as being of overriding importance. The Prime Minister's private secretary states:

I am afraid the amount of money available for the provision of health services is finite and needs to be kept to planned levels.

and further
The Prime Minister appreciates the special position of end stage renal failure services as providing a proven method of treatment for an otherwise fatal condition. However, health authorities are also aware of this and it is their responsibility to take it into account in deciding between competing claims for available funds.

We do not believe that the Government can delegate to lower authorities its overriding responsibility to provide "a proven method of treatment for an otherwise fatal condition". It has earned a secure term of office, but has no mandate to propose that money is so scarce that citizens must die because such treatment cannot be afforded.

The Government should need no reminder of John Donne's moving perception "No man is an island entire of itself. Any man's death diminishes me... therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee".

Yours sincerely,
N. P. MALLICK,
R. GOKAL,
R. W. G. JOHNSON,
Dialysis and Transplantation Unit,
Central Manchester Health Authority,
Manchester Royal Infirmary,
Oxford Road,
Manchester,
October 18.

The numbers game

From the Secretary of the South African Cricket Union

Sir, There have recently, and understandably, been letters from your readers and items by your cricket writers noting with apprehension the prominent roles now played by South African cricketers in both the England XI and in your county teams.

Now that cricket has again moved "south of the line" it is perhaps only reasonable that note be taken in England of the extent to which English professional cricketers no less than our own move annually to and fro between the hemispheres.

For more than 100 years English cricketers have regularly come here to coach. In the more recent summers the number has risen to between 50 and 60. Thus far for 1982 that number is 66. The cricketers now here come thus from the English counties:

Derbyshire, 10; Essex, two; Hampshire, nine; Kent, five; Glamorgan, four; Lancashire, all; Leicestershire, four; Middlesex, four; Gloucestershire, two; Northamptonshire, one; Nottinghamshire, one; Somerset, two; Surrey, four; Sussex, six; Warwickshire, four; Worcestershire, one; Yorkshire, one; and M.C.C. ground staff, two.

These numbers do not include any of our South Africans who played in England during your 1983 season.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES FORTUNE, Secretary,
South African Cricket Union,
PO Box 55009,
Northlands, 2116,
October 14.

Polytechnic courses

From Professor John Westergaard
Sir, I wonder whether Mr Miller had read the HMI report on sociology and applied social studies at his former institution, the Polytechnic of North London, before invoking it in support of his sweeping accusations (October 14) against these disciplines and their validators.

The report does not charge the course teams with "Marxist bias" in either teaching or marking. On the contrary it acknowledges their "pluralism" of approach, while seeing this as a source of weakness because it may tempt allegedly unsatisfied students into undue selectiveness of approach as a means of coping with diversity.

If this and other criticisms made in the HMI report raise questions about the validity of Council for National Academic Awards validation and external examiner assessments they raise, to no smaller degree, questions about the validity

Call for justice for police officers

From Mr Eldon Griffiths, MP for Barry St Edmunds (Conservative)

Sir, I had always supposed that when a person is brought to trial for an alleged offence, the press and politicians respect the sub judice rule, and eschew comment lest the jury be prejudiced and the trial, as a result, be unfair. I had also believed, perhaps naively, that when a British jury, after weighing all the evidence, returns a verdict of not guilty, the case is regarded as closed, and defendants allowed to go free, with no further stains on their character.

Both these broad principles, whose observance is essential if justice is to be done, have been severely breached in the case of PCs Finch and Jardine. First, by the welter of prejudicial comment made about their actions, before, during and since they were put on trial. Second, by the attempt of certain newspapers virtually to re-try them, by "second guessing" the jury and misrepresenting the Judge's summing up. Third - and most mischievously - by the demand of Opposition MPs that the Commissioner of Police should summarily sack these officers, even before the disciplinary enquiry which is now being set up, has met, or heard any of the evidence.

The presumption of innocence it seems has been stood on its head. Before the verdict, for example, Finch and Jardine were presumed by the Liberal establishment to be guilty as charged. Is that not one of the reasons why there was so great an outcry when the jury begged leave to differ - and pronounced them not guilty on all the charges?

Since that verdict, too, these officers have been presumed guilty of breaches of discipline and of the code of practice governing police use of firearms. Thus, one commentator declared that they were "anti" to be policemen; another said the people of London would feel "safer without

them"; while an MP (and a lawyer!) saw fit to demand of the Commissioner that they be sacked out of hand, before they have had a chance to appear before a discipline board.

What kind of justice is this? It is bad enough that the civil liberties people should call for policemen to be dismissed without the elementary civil liberty of having their cases heard. It is far worse that when they appear before their superiors, the cards, all too often, are stacked against them.

Unlike any other group of British citizens, policemen facing disciplinary charges are denied access to legal advice; they have no right of silence; the rules of evidence may not apply, and the powers of their Chief to punish them, including dismissal, demotion or fines of thousands of pounds, are, or can be, arbitrary and virtually unchallengeable.

This is why, when the House comes to consider the new Police Bill, I shall be pressing for a charter of civil liberties to cover policemen who are charged with disciplinary offences, and for clarification of the law in respect of the civil damages that may be awarded against an officer who has no choice but to use lawful force, including firearms, to uphold the Queen's peace and protect himself and the public from armed criminals and terrorists.

The individual officer must be held accountable under the same law that applies to all other citizens, for all his activities on duty. But he cannot surely be held personally liable to pay any and all civil damages that may be awarded to third parties who are caught up, as was Stephen Waldorf, in the consequences of the police doing their duty, according to the law and under discipline!

Yours sincerely,
ELDON GRIFFITHS,
House of Commons,
October 20.

Role of the GLC

From Councillor Charles Williams

Sir, The GLC no longer has the strategic role that was envisaged when the council was created. It has neither taken nor implemented any strategic decisions since the motorway box was abandoned some 10 years ago and its existence can now only be justified if it has control of London's economic and physical development to an extent that is wholly at variance with the Government's philosophy.

The object of abolishing the GLC and the metropolitan counties is to reduce control over the boroughs and the private sector and if the result of the planned reforms was that "Government interference" were to be substituted for "GLC interference", then the Conservatives will have failed to reform local government in a way consistent with their own principles.

Without a strategic role the GLC has no justification. It is carrying out functions, such as entertainment, licensing and recreation services, that can be perfectly well managed by the boroughs. Other services will require the joint boards which you

condemn (leading article, October 8).

Surely, services such as the fire brigade - where administration is not a matter of great public controversy or political interest - can be satisfactorily managed in this way? Even public transport, which arouses greater political interest, was successfully managed in the provincial counties by joint boards under Labour's 1968 Transport Act, an arrangement which will be reintroduced in those areas.

It is a pity that the Government did not recognize that, in London also, some measure of direct or indirect local representation on the proposed new London Regional Transport Authority is desirable. A joint board of 32 boroughs might be too cumbersome a way of managing London's transport, so why can there not be direct elections to the body that will take responsibility for the largest and most controversial item of the GLC's expenditure?

Yours faithfully,
C. A. WILLIAMS,
London Borough of Lambeth,
Members' Room,
Town Hall,
Brixton Hill, SW2,
October 10.

Planning for leisure

From Sir Ian Hunter

Sir, It is, I believe, generally accepted that in the years ahead, whatever the economic climate, people will have more time for leisure activities resulting from technological advance, early retirement and changing patterns of work. In this context the arts and crafts as well as sport have an important role to play. The professionals are already well catered for; the amateur in sport is taken care of by the Sports Council, but the amateur in other fields is mainly left to his or her own resources.

Modern education is turning out students of such high standard that when they leave school they find their amateur standards much higher than those pertaining outside.

Vote for Gibraltarans

From Mr Robert J. Peliza, MHA

Sir, At the Conservative Party Conference yesterday (October 12) the Government announced that British citizens living in the European Community would be allowed to vote in the British and European elections.

In the past the then British citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies born in Gibraltar, defined "as a United Kingdom national for Community purposes" were denied the right to vote for the European Parliament on the basis that they were not entitled to vote for the British Parliament; an argument that can only be sustained on the pretext that one wrong justifies another wrong.

Now that the new Nationality Act, Gibraltarans like the English, Scots, Welsh and Northern

Many amateur artistic organisations are traditionally based on seniority rather than qualification and there must be many of the young who as a result lose interest.

It seems to me necessary for a strong lead to be given to encourage, coordinate and reassess all these amateur activities in the light of their increasing importance.

I would like to propose a Council for Amateur Activities, modelled broadly on the Sports Council, to bring home to the public the growing importance of an active interest to fill the additional hours of leisure now becoming available, and to provide the facilities which will be required to meet future needs.

Yours faithfully,
IAN HUNTER,
31 Sinclair Road, W14,
October 19.

Irish, are full British citizens, it is hoped that the new conditions will also be applicable to British citizens born and resident in Gibraltar, a territory which, as well as being British, is also an integral part of the European Community and could easily be included in a British constituency.

The people of small French territories overseas, far away from Europe, years ago cleverly decolonised by being given representation in the French Legislature, vote in the French national and European elections.

What have these French overseas people got that we British in Gibraltar lack that deprives us of these elementary democratic rights?

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT J. PELIZA,
House of Assembly,
Gibraltar,
October 13.

charges of bias levelled against them. That is inevitable because critique of conventional social wisdom is central to their role: critique from the "right" as well as the "left", though it is the latter which commonly attracts demands for inquiry. Only recently a demand from one voice led to such an inquiry into the work of the Industrial Relations Research Unit at Warwick University and to the unit's clearance from charges of undue bias.

If the many previous reviews of social science work at PNL, resulting in similar clearance, is to be followed by yet another inquiry so be it. But there seems a plain inference to be drawn: that the demands for inquiry reflect a bias more tenacious among accusers than accused.

Yours truly,
JOHN WESTERGAARD,
The University of Sheffield,
Department of Sociological Studies,
Sheffield.

Implications of a nuclear freeze

From Dr J. W. Arriens

Sir, Lord Chalfont and Sir Clive Rose miss the point about a nuclear freeze. Given the overkill we have at present, the precise modalities of such an agreement are unimportant; its impact would be psychological and political, not military.

In purely military terms the world could safely cut its nuclear arsenals very dramatically without detriment to mutual security. It is this which the public has realized and where it is now demanding a political response.

The problems of definition, equivalence, counting and verification, as Sir Clive points out, formidable. But, as I myself can testify from 10 years in diplomacy, it is in the gift of politicians to cut through technical difficulties and to reduce issues to their essentials.

Since "balance" is no longer a concept with any meaning, the precise levels at which we freeze, or how we do it, are not the point. What is required is a statesmanlike gesture on both sides saying that enough is enough. If either side were acting in bad faith that would soon become apparent.

What is at issue is not the precise level or nature of nuclear arms but the psychological climate in which those arsenals are held.

Yours faithfully,
J. W. ARRIENS,
Evergreen House,
10 West End,
Whitliffe,
Cambridge,
October 18.

From Lord Mayhew

Sir, David Owen (feature, October 20) deserves our thanks for his thoughtful and ingenious proposals for an INF agreement. They assume, however, the deployment as planned of cruise missiles in Britain and Italy - ie, the failure of the current negotiations. But even at this late hour this could be prevented if the British Government were to show the degree of independence which David Owen rightly demands and which is essential to his own proposals.

We are loyal members of Nato and loyal allies of the United States; but the stationing of cruise missiles on British soil is first and foremost a matter for the British to decide. Moreover, since our assent to deployment is indispensable to the whole Nato project, any reasonable conditions we attach to it will certainly be accepted by the Americans.

In perspective, the gap between the two negotiating teams is now absurdly narrow. The Americans will accept - no cruise, no Pershing 2s and no SS20s. The Russians will accept - no cruise, no Pershing 2s and 162 SS20s. In terms of warheads this amounts to about 2 1/2 per cent of the stockpile of the two Powers. Without this 2 1/2 per cent the Russians can still devastate the Nato countries many times over.

With so much at stake in political terms - for East-West relations, the SALT talks, the unity of Nato, the defeat of neutralism and unilateralism - the British Government should now inform the United States, privately but firmly, that it is looking for a decisive move in the US negotiating position before cruise missiles are deployed in Britain.

Yours etc,
MAYHEW,
House of Lords,
October 20.

UK cheese in France

From Mr C. L. Griffiths

Sir, French awareness and experience of English cheese is not quite as dismal as your Lancashire correspondent (October 15) suggests. If I can grossly over-simplify a few of the findings of a study we carried out last year for a leading UK producer, I would say that:

1. English (white) cheese has traditionally been developed to be eaten with beer, butter and brown bread or biscuits at the centre of a light lunch. French soft and blue cheeses have been evolved to complement red wine at the end of a heavy dinner.

2. If we ignore the ephemeral hypermarché "British weeks", there is some evidence of the continuing in the high beer-consumption areas of France (mainly the north and east). This is inhibited by the lower priced, more heavily promoted Goudas/Edams, which are gradually ousting the Gruyères/Emmentals as the basic French cooking cheeses.

There is no doubt that classic English white cheese could obtain a significant share of the French cheese market, as the Dutch have done, but this would need a single-minded Government-supported, producer-integrated marketing lead organization on the Dutch scale. A scattering of Union Jacks - à la "Food from Britain" - is not a solution, merely a belated recognition of a problem.

At the other end of the scale there are many opportunities for promoting the specialist English regional cheeses, but you need to understand your market, perhaps even to research it!

Yours faithfully,
C. L. GRIFFITHS,
Products across Frontiers,
54 Erskine Hill, NW11,
October 17.

Taken literally?

From Mrs Bettina C. Stewart

Sir, On the window of an empty shop in Watford, which specialized in outside clothes, I saw the notice "moved to larger premises".

Yours faithfully,
BETTINA C. STEWART,
Burtons Lane,
Chalfont St Giles,
Buckinghamshire,
October 18.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 23: The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present this afternoon at the Observer/Schey-Schey's Victorian Sunday in Hyde Park, London.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland and Mrs Michael Wiggley were in attendance.

The Earl of Ulster is nine today.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of David Niven will be held at St Martin-in-the-Fields on Thursday, October 27, at noon.

A memorial service for Sir Nikolaus Pevsner will be held at the University Church of Christ the King, Gordon Square, London, W.C1, at noon on Tuesday, December 6, 1983.

Sir Dallas Bernard was accompanied by his wife, Lady Dallas, at the memorial service for Sir John Addis held on Friday.

Latest wills

£200,000 left to charity

Millicent Evelyn KING, of West Kirby, Merseyside, left estate valued at £233,574 net.

She left £24,500 to personal legacies, all her personal effects, including 15 first edition signed prints by the Russian artist Tretyakov, to Oxford, and the residue equally between the Salvation Army, the Liverpool Radio Theatre Company, Save the Children Fund, British Red Cross Society, PDSA, Home of Rest for Horses, Borehamwood, Help the Aged and Battersea Dogs' Home.

Other estates (net before tax paid) include:

Dea, Mr Louis, of Freetown, Greater Manchester, £18,725.

Escombe, Mrs Beatrice Dorothea, of Andover, Hampshire, £209,643.

Kelland, Mrs Beatrice Maud, of Weston super Mare, Avon, £319,767.

Latest appointments

Professor R. J. Hanson, FRS, formerly Professor of Anatomy at the University of Cambridge, to be Chairman of Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) from January 1.

Marine Builders Training Trust

The following burials and prices have been recorded:

Barrowfield, A. E. (Govan Shipbuilders' Association), £1,000.

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Churches caught in a war of words

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

Predictions that the Church of England would quickly settle down to the new English liturgy of the Alternative Service Book (ASB) have proved untrue: the battle goes on, inexorably. Meanwhile the Roman Catholic Church is about to embark on the complete revision of its new English liturgy, raising all the same questions as those facing Anglicanism, and new ones too.

These two liturgical crises are not just parallel; they overlap. Not only are some of the prayers identical, thanks to international ecumenical collaboration, but these two great liturgical traditions lean on each other for support.

If the Roman Catholic Church revises its English worship to take on alleged "sexist language", as it is minded to do, for sure the Church of England will eventually have to go the same way. And that is the only way either church has yet found a satisfactory style of language for worship in the modern age, sexist apart, and the critics' incessant attack on banality and superficiality in both liturgies will not be silenced until the cause is remedied.

The latest edition of *Faith and*

Heritage, the journal of the Prayer Book Society, contains an extended leading article summing up all that is wrong with the ASB. Its strength, the editor, the Rev Peter Mollen, writes ironically, is its capacity for promoting a quiet life.

This is because the language of the prayers, greetings, and ejaculations is so extraordinarily bland as to anesthetize all emotion.

He proves his case with considerable overkill: it is enough to quote one of his many examples. The Marriage Service of the Book of Common Prayer urged that matrimony should be entered "in the fear of God." The ASB substitutes "with serious thought."

The Church of England can be divided into those who see at once how devastating is the comparison, and those who cannot.

Deeper issues still are involved in the current Roman Catholic revision, which will eventually effect the weekly worship language of English speakers all over the world, many times more than those exposed to the Anglican ASB. Banality in the present English version is still present, though diminished in this case by the

discipline of the search for stark simplicity.

It is almost too plain to be called banal, as it is too cold to be called good.

Critics of the English Mass have repeatedly complained that a quality of numinousness was lost in translation. The most telling critique so far has been produced by Father John McHugh, senior lecturer in theology in Durham University, who assisted in the production of the new (Anglican) Liturgical Psalter.

In an open letter to the Right Rev Joseph Gray, president of the Liturgical Commission of the Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference, he points to the origin of the trouble with this translation: it is too international.

It was the Vatican who originally insisted on one uniform English version, and which set up an international committee with representatives from every part of the English speaking world (including some where it was a second language). Simplicity verging on barrenness was the inevitable solution, a language not literary enough for the English and at the same time not

exuberant enough for Africa or the West Indies.

His immediate suggestion is that the English liturgy should be forthrightly regionalized, even nationalized, abandoning the policy of one form for all English-speakers.

The English have yet to discover how to write good liturgy that is simultaneously modern and numinous, and if they cannot do it, it is hardly surprising that a committee of BBC World Service listeners which meets from time to time in Washington DC has failed as yet to add to the corpus of Eng Lit.

Further McHugh raises, in passing, the issue of sexist language, saying that the demand for the God as Mother type of change is very questionable. The International Committee for English Liturgy (of Washington DC) has already circulated a paper in favour of the age, which unwittingly betrays how this is an ideological and fashionable cause.

"This concern", it states, "felt initially and very strongly in North America is now experienced in other places, an unconsciously damning remark."

What he asks for above all, however, just as critics of the ASB have demanded, is a sensitivity in language from Latin to modern English, or Crammer to modern English, to all the subtleties and harmonics of meaning in the original.

"In the fear of God", to take an example, may be paraphrased if necessary, but "serious thought" is not faithful to it. In the Roman Catholic case, The Collect for St Stephen's Day, "Da nobis, quæsumus, Domine, initiari quod colimus, ut discamus et inimicos diligere, quia eius natalis celebramus qui novit etiam pro persecutoribus exorare" is not accurately rendered (apart from the added specificity) by "Let today we celebrate the entrance of St Stephen into eternal glory. He died praying for those who killed him. Help us to imitate his goodness and to love our enemies."

Goodness, as Father McHugh eloquently points out, is hardly what it is all about. It is the kind of reduction (ad absurdum) which is precisely that complained of by critics of the ASB.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D. R. McQuinn and **Miss L. P. Hamilton**
The engagement is announced between Donald, only son of the Rev Dr and Mrs Donald McQuinn, of 94 Southbrae Drive, Glasgow, and Katie, daughter of the Rev Dr and Mrs Peter Hamilton, of Frant Rectory, Tunbridge Wells.

Mr S. B. Mather and **Miss J. V. Wakley**
The engagement is announced between Simon Mather RN, only son of Mr and Mrs J. D. Mather, of Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, and Jane, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs A. A. Wakley, of Plymouth, Devon.

Lieutenant G. D. Trezona and **Miss J. M. Cropper**
The engagement is announced between G. D. Trezona, son of Colonel and Mrs J. D. Trezona, of Repulse Bay, Hong Kong, and Joanne, youngest daughter of Mrs D. Cropper and the late Mr L. Cropper, of Lyford Cay Nassau, Bahamas.

Mr N. S. G. Smith and **Miss L. M. MacArthur**
The marriage took place on Saturday at St Mary's, Sturtevant, of Mr Nicholas Smith, son of Mr Roy and Dame Margaret Smith, of Howden Lodge, Spennithorne, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, and Miss Lavonia May MacArthur, youngest daughter of Mrs V. B. MacArthur, of Staverton Hall, Davenry, Northamptonshire, and the late Captain J. J. MacArthur. The Rev A. V. Wintersgill and the Rev J. Graham-Orbell officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr Kory MacArthur, wore a gown of ivory, coloured crepe de chine and carried a bouquet of pale autumn flowers. She was attended by Rupert Wertheimer, Dan Richmond-Watson, Maximilian Bairstow, Stephen Gilchrist, Holly Laverty and Victoria Wright. Mr John Livingston-Learmonth was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr N. J. C. Barton and **Mrs V. A. Hobday**
The marriage took place on Saturday, October 22, at Holy Trinity Church, Putney, London, between Mr Norman Barton and Mrs Vivien Hobday.

Colonel Sir Peter Long and **Mrs M. C. McEneaney**
The marriage took place on Saturday, October 22, at St Peter's Church, Putney, London, between Colonel Sir Peter Long and Mrs M. C. McEneaney.

Royal Air Force
The marriage took place on Saturday, October 22, at St Peter's Church, Putney, London, between Mr Norman Barton and Mrs Vivien Hobday.

Parliament this week
The House of Commons will meet on Monday, October 24, at 11.30 a.m. The House of Lords will meet on Monday, October 24, at 2.30 p.m.

Science report
The wave of concern after Friday's publication of two reports linking oral contraceptives with cancer is the second big scare involving the pill during its 21-year history.

The more worrying of the two papers in last week's *Lancet* seemed to establish a strong statistical link between progestogen, one of the two active hormones in most oral contraceptives, and breast cancer in young women. Those who took high-progestogen pills for at least six years under the age of 25 were apparently four times more likely as other women of similar age and social background to develop breast cancer.

Until last week, concern about the pill had focused on the other hormone, oestrogen, which makes blood coagulate more easily. The scare in 1977 came after a Royal College of General Practitioners report on the increased risk of heart attacks and strokes.

The pharmaceutical industry has, therefore, concentrated over the last few years on reducing the pill's oestrogen content.

Mr P. T. Doughty and **Miss C. E. Plunkett**
The marriage took place on Saturday, October 22, at St Edward's Church, White Bay, of Mr Paul Doughty, son of Mr and Mrs Stanley Doughty, of Edgeware Middlesex, and Miss Christina Plunkett, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Plunkett, of Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear. Father Patrick Morrissey officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Mrs Susan Surtees and Miss Susan Garner. Mr Anthony Fickling was best man.

A reception was held at the Newcastle Hotel, Newcastle, and the honeymoon was spent in Minorca.

Mr P. H. T. Hanson and **Miss C. A. Mackintosh**
The marriage took place on Saturday, October 22, 1983, at All Saints, Kirby Overblow, between Mr Paul Hanson, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. L. Hanson, of Kirby, and Miss Christina Mackintosh, daughter of Mr and Mrs Martin Mackintosh, of Weston, near Harrogate.

Mr R. K. Olson and **Miss S. P. Doolan**
The marriage took place in the Cathedral of St John the Baptist, Savannah, Georgia, United States, on Saturday, October 22, of Mr Richard Kenneth Olson, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Olson, of Walton-on-the-Hill, Surrey, and Miss Shawn Patricia Doolan, daughter of the late Dr J. Joseph Doolan and of Mrs Doolan, of Savannah.

Mr H. S. Weavers and **Miss L. V. F. Times**
A service of blessing was held in the Queen's Chapel of the Savoy on Saturday, October 22, after the marriage on Friday, October 21, of Mr Henry S. Weavers and Miss Lela V. F. Times. Canon Edwin Young officiated at the service of blessing.

A reception was held at the Savoy Hotel and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Birthdays today
Sir Geoffrey Barman, 77; Mr Phil Bennett, 53; Rear-Admiral J. H. Cariff, 58; the Earl of Cromartie, 79; Sir Robin Day, 60; Mr Frank Delaney, 41; Lord Elwyn-Jones, 74; the Earl of Gainsborough, 60; Mr Peter Goldhamer, 71; Colonel W. J. Gilmour, 71; Mr Tito Gobbi, 68; Mr Wally Herbert, 49; Professor Dame Elizabeth Hill, 83; Miss Sena Jarina, 62; Miss Margherita Laski, 62; Sir Terence Morrison-Saunders, 70; Professor W. Lindford Rees, 69; Sir Robert Sainsbury, 77.

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The pharmaceutical industry has, therefore, concentrated over the last few years on reducing the pill's oestrogen content.

Comparing the "progestogen potency" of the 30 or so brands of pill available in Britain is difficult because they contain six different progestogens which vary markedly in strength.

There has, therefore, been some confusion about the number of women at risk in Britain. Dr Malcolm Pike, who led the Californian research team and recently moved to Oxford as Director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund Epidemiology Unit, apparently under-estimated, when he spoke to journalists, the extent to which women in this country are still taking pills of high progestogen potency.

At least three-quarters of British pill users may be consuming the levels of progestogen he associated with increased risk of breast cancer. These pills include so-called "low dose" brands, which are low in oestrogen but not in progestogen. Brands that contain low levels of both hormones include Loestrin 20, Bioness, Evriplan, Normin, OR/10/11, Orysan and Trinovum.

OBITUARY

MR HARRY GRYLLS

Innovations in developing Rolls-Royce cars

Mr Harry Grylls, CBE, who died on October 17 at Pershore, Worcestershire, aged 74, was as Chief Engineer and later Technical Director of the motor car division of Rolls-Royce until his retirement in 1969, associated with the development of several generations of Rolls-Royce cars over nearly forty years and was the last member of the engineering staff to have known and worked with the legendary Sir Henry Royce. The V8 light alloy engine and monocoque construction, were just two of the innovations he oversaw into Rolls-Royce cars.

Shadwell, Harry Grylls was born in Cornwall and educated at Rugby and Trinity College, Cambridge, joining Rolls-Royce in 1930. Until 1939 he worked in the Motor Car Experimental Department at Derby before becoming personal assistant to the Works Director. In 1948 he became Assistant Chief Engineer of the newly formed Motor Car Division at Crewe and in 1957, Chief Engineer. He was appointed Technical Director of Rolls-Royce Cars in 1968.

From his earliest years with the company Grylls was associated with the assessment of innovation in automobile construction and his first work was on synchronism gears and independent front suspension systems.

After his move to Crewe his first major responsibility was the design of the Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud and Bentley 'S' models. These were the first Rolls-Royce cars to have standard automatic transmission when they were introduced in 1955. In the year of their launch

Grylls was particularly interested in the steering and handling of motor cars and was responsible for installing the first skid pan in this country before the war. He also did work on military and commercial vehicle engines the most important of which was the 'K' range multi-valve opposed piston engine.

Grylls was appointed CBE for his services to export. In his retirement in Worcestershire he continued his association with Rolls-Royce as a regular consultant and spent his leisure hours in such pursuits as designing and restoring sundials and studying the aerodynamics of boomers. He was also for many years a member of the panel of judges for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award to Industry.

A tall, dashing man, noted for his cloud and Bentley 'S' models. These were the first Rolls-Royce cars to have standard automatic transmission when they were introduced in 1955. In the year of their launch

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the prototype light V8 alloy engine which had been designed under his guidance some years earlier was run in a prototype model and the success of this saw it in general production in 1959.

In the second half of the 1950s Grylls was already moving on to the design and development of a smaller, lighter, model based on monocoque construction, which culminated in the launch of the Silver Shadow and Bentley 'T' series in 1965. Rolls-Royce's most innovative effort to date, and perhaps the most successful car in the company's history.

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A SPECIAL REPORT

The racial and religious mix of this tiny Indian Ocean island might seem a recipe for an explosion. Yet for all its problems it remains a rare example of racial harmony, if no longer quite the Third World success story it was in the 1970s. Michael Hornsby reports.

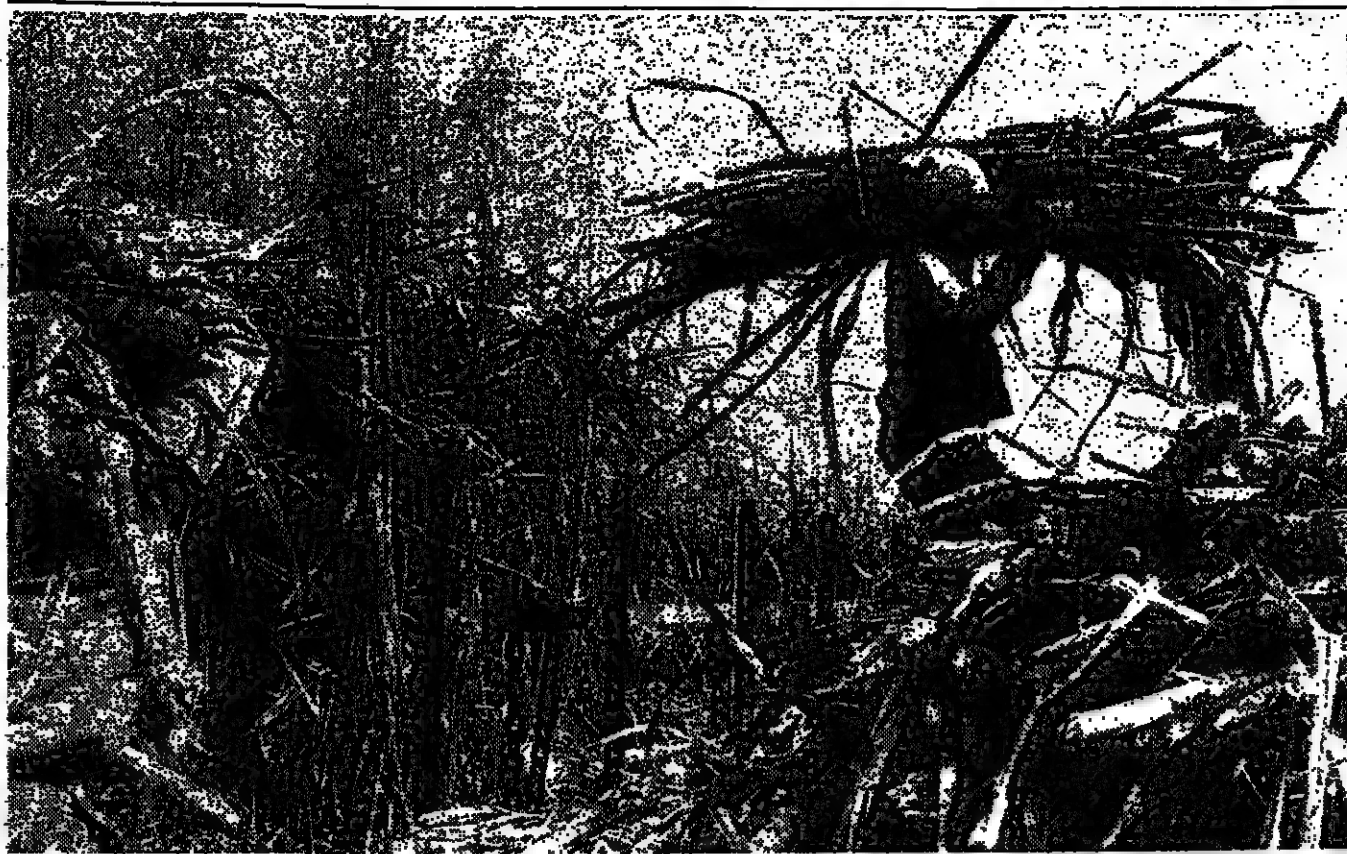
Imagine a population of 960,000 people of mixed race, culture and religion which is growing by more than 10,000 a year and is packed higgledy-muddled on to 720 square miles of volcanic rock in the middle of the Indian Ocean. Suppose, too, that a tiny, white minority, descended from early European settlers, controls much of the economy which in turn is almost entirely dependent on a single crop vulnerable to the vagaries of weather and world prices. A fair blueprint, it might be thought, for disaster.

Mauritius is all these things, yet somehow manages to survive with style. Despite terrifying social pressures and tensions, it remains a model of racial harmony and must be one of the least violent places on earth. At the end of August, in the second general election in just over a year, the island state handsomely confirmed both its reputation as one of the very few functioning, multi-party democracies outside Western Europe and North America, and the refreshing unpredictability of its electorate.

Lying 500 miles to the east of Madagascar, Mauritius is the coral-fringed remnant of an eroded volcano. It has several island dependencies, of which the most important is Rodrigues, another volcanic outcrop some 350 miles to the east, about 40 square miles in area and with some 35,000 inhabitants.

It was colonized fitfully by the Dutch during the seventeenth century and settled permanently by the French in 1721, who left an indelible imprint of their language and culture, established the sugar plantations and brought in African slaves, whose mixed-blood descendants now form the Creole population. Their judging French patois is the nearest thing to an indigenous *lingua franca*.

The French were bundled out in 1810 by the British, who in one of their fits of public



Sweet and sour. Harvesting sugar — a crop on which the island is still largely dependent but which now yields lower prices, not least because doctors urge the world to use less

morality abolished slavery and instead imported indentured labour from India. Independence was granted in 1968, with the Queen remaining as head of state, though that role may soon be ended.

A major upheaval in the island's post-independence politics occurred in June of last year when the octogenarian Sir Seewoosagar Rengoolam, the Hindu doctor whose Labour Party (LP) had ruled Mauritius since independence from Britain and who had dominated the local political scene since long before that, was swept aside by a left-wing alliance led by the Mouvement Militant Mauricien (MMM). The MMM was created 13 years earlier by Mr Paul Béranger, a youthful Franco-Mauritian, who learnt his politics on the student barricades in Paris in 1968.

Sir Seewoosagar was in part a victim of his own success. During the first half of the 1970s economic growth averaged nine per cent a year, and there was generous spending on social services, with free education being provided all the way to university level. The aging Prime Minister and his hardly less elderly cabinet were overwhelmed by the rising expectations of an increasingly

well-educated and youthful population when the economic boom began to falter. Job creation fell drastically behind target, foreign investment tailed off, and a slump in the sugar industry was compounded by three successive cyclones.

The MMM of Mr Béranger, who began his career as a trade union organizer among the dock and transport workers of Port Louis, was an attempt to form a non-ethnic, class-based party that could be used to drive a wedge into the Hindu majority support of the LP. In pursuing this goal, however, it also became a somewhat fragile coalition of minority ethnic and religious groups — Indian Muslims, the Tamil and Telegu Hindu minorities, Creoles and a sprinkling of whites. These internal tensions, masked to some extent while the MMM was in opposition, came to the surface when the party achieved power.

The victory of June 11, 1982, was a famous one, the MMM alliance capturing all the 62 directly elected seats in the small parliament. Within weeks, however, the alliance's leaders were squabbling among themselves. The main problem was the strong mutual antipathy

felt by Mr Béranger, who had been appointed Finance Minister in the new Government, and Mr Harish Bhoodoo, the Deputy Prime Minister and leader of the Parti Socialiste Mauricien (PSM), a small Hindu party, espousing (despite its name) a populist conservatism, which had broken away from Sir Seewoosagar's LP in 1979.

Taking the blame for economic austerity

Mr Béranger, who never hid his contempt for the intellectual ability of some of his colleagues, also fell out with the Prime Minister, Mr Anerood Jugnauth, a 53-year-old Hindu trained as a barrister in Britain, who was the MMM's President (Mr Béranger being the party's Secretary-General). His main complaint was that as Finance Minister he was being made the scapegoat for the unpopular economic austerity measures insisted on by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank as the price of financial

aid, and for the postponement of the ambitious social welfare improvements promised in the election campaign.

The final break came in March of this year when Mr Béranger resigned with 10 of his cabinet colleagues. Mr Jugnauth thereupon formed a new party, the Mouvement Socialiste Militant (MSM), which consisted of defectors from the MMM plus most of Mr Bhoodoo's PSM. However, the realignment left him without a clear majority and he was forced to call another election on August 21. For this purpose, the MSM teamed up not only with Sir Seewoosagar's discredited LP but also with the Parti Mauricien Social Démocrate (PMSD) of the Creole leader, Sir Gaetan Duval, a flamboyant right-wing figure.

This, on the face of it, was a remarkable volte-face. Only a year earlier both Mr Jugnauth and Mr Bhoodoo had been denouncing Sir Seewoosagar as a reactionary old fogey. For his part, Sir Gaetan, a former foreign minister, had never before shown the slightest sympathy for the socialist aspirations of the MSM nor for the leftist-tinged, strictly non-aligned foreign policy to which

it still formally adheres. But the new formation was explicable as a re-uniting of Hindu ranks and a return to traditional ethnic alliances (the LP and PMSD having worked together previously.)

Mr Jugnauth's new coalition scored a striking victory, winning 41 of the directly-elected seats and five of the eight "best loser" seats (a system devised by the British to ensure that every ethnic group gets adequate representation.) The Organisation du Peuple Rodriguais (OPR), which won the two seats allocated to Rodrigues, also allied itself with the new Government, which thus in effect commands 48 of the 70 seats in Parliament. The MMM garnered no more than 19 directly elected seats and Mr Béranger could only creep back into Parliament as one of his party's three "best losers".

The MMM did, however, make a clean sweep of the four Port Louis constituencies and also captured 46 per cent of the popular vote.

The new Government is even more of an ideological dog's breakfast than its predecessor, and it remains to be seen

whether its more compatible ethnic mix will suffice to keep it together under the strain of the painful economic policies that are unavoidable. Sir Gaetan, whose success in mobilizing the Creole vote played a key role in the election victory, is Deputy Prime Minister and has been given the task of using his business contacts abroad, including South Africa and the Far East, to drum up foreign investment and tourism. This suggests a return to something like the openly pro-western policy previously pursued by Sir Seewoosagar.

For Sir Seewoosagar, at least, there is a happy ending. On December 27 he will move into Le Réduit the splendid bougainvillea-wreathed chateau that was once the home of the island's British and French governors. Whether he does so as Governor-General or as President of the new republic of Mauritius will depend on the Government's ability to reach agreement with the opposition on the president's powers. There is no dispute about the desirability of republican status as such, but the Government just lacks the three-quarters majority needed to make the change on its own.

A lurch back to the West

After a year of flirtation with leftist non-alignment, Mauritius has lurching back towards the openly pro-Western foreign policy pursued by Sir Seewoosagar Rengoolam, who led the country from before independence in 1968 until he and his ruling Labour Party were rudely bundled out of office in the elections of June, 1982.

Now, after the elections of last August, Sir Seewoosagar and a number of other old guard LP figures are back in power, alongside their ally of earlier days, the flamboyant right-wing Creole leader, Sir Gaetan Duval, and Mr Anerood Jugnauth, Prime Minister in the short-lived leftist alliance that swept to victory in 1982, who remains as Prime Minister and Defence Minister in the new government.

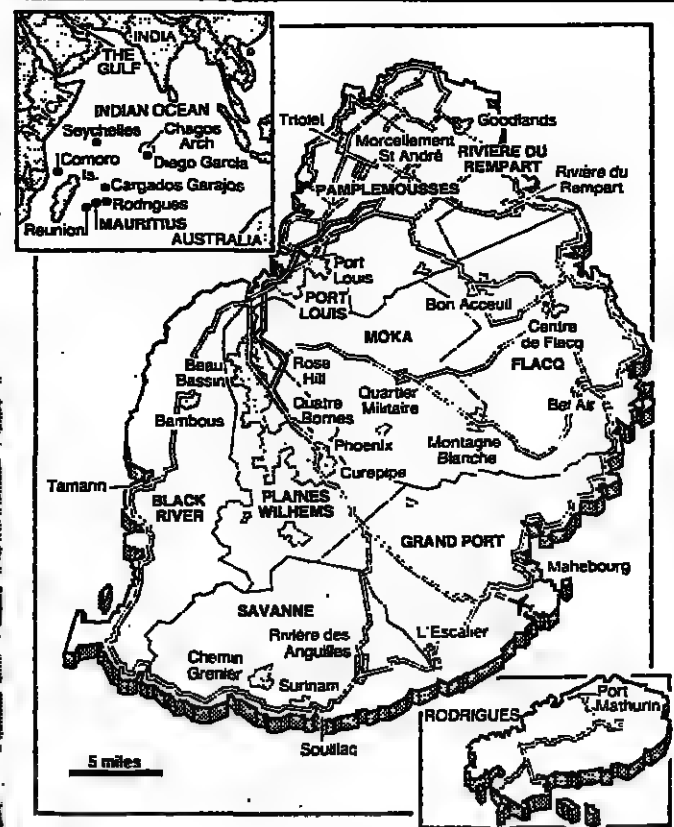
Sir Gaetan's was, perhaps, the most astonishing political come-back of all. His Creole-dominated Parti Mauricien Social Démocrate (PMSD) was totally eclipsed in the 1982 election, when most of his following defected to the left-wing Mouvement Militant Mauricien of Mr Paul Béranger.

Most of the island's newspapers wrote him off as a political has-been, but his success in mobilising the Creole vote was crucial to the victory of Mr Jugnauth's newly-formed Mouvement Socialiste Mauricien (MSM) and its LP and PMSD allies. He was rewarded with the post of Deputy Prime Minister, and it is already clear he will have at least as big a role in foreign policy formulation as the Foreign Minister, Mr Anil Gayan, an Indian lawyer who held the same post in the previous minority MSM government.

Formally, the new Government is committed to the same policy of non-alignment as its predecessor, but Sir Gaetan made clear in a post-election interview with *The Times* that Mauritius considered itself "a staunch ally of the West" and was looking mainly to Western countries to inject new vigour into its flagging economy.

A change of tack has already been reflected in the new government's soft-pedalling of the emotive Diego Garcia issue. In return, Mauritius will expect increased American and British political financial and economic support.

The new Government will
Continued on page 19



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Sugar and the social time-bomb

For much of the 1970s Mauritius was one of the Third World's unquestionable economic success stories. Between 1970 and 1976 economic growth averaged 9 per cent a year, the highest growth rate achieved by any developing country of less than five million inhabitants. Between 1961 and 1980 the number of jobs increased by 84 per cent, and those in manufacturing grew fivefold. Eight times more tourists visit Mauritius now than at independence in 1968. Schooling is free all the way to university and literacy is

high. Over the past two decades, secondary schools enrolment has more than trebled as has the number of doctors, and the proportion of children dying in the first year of life has dropped from nearly 70 per thousand live births to 33. The annual rate of population growth has been brought down from over 3 per cent to about 1.5 per cent (though it may now be rising again.) Most houses are built of concrete blocks and 90 per cent have electricity. Food subsidies are generous.

Since 1976, the pace of economic advance has slowed

sharply, after a boom in the mid-1970s. The price of sugar, on which the economy is still largely dependent, has declined and stayed low, and a mixture of drought, cyclone and flood has in most recent years kept Mauritian sugar production below the 700,000 tonnes considered to be a normal crop. This year it is not expected to exceed 610,000 tonnes. In a good year Mauritius depends on sugar for more than two thirds of its foreign exchange earnings.

With the average price of imports rising nearly twice as

much as the average price of exports, Mauritius has run up a large balance of payments deficit in each of the last eight years. Ninety per cent of the island's fuel and 50 per cent of its food are imported, as are most capital goods. Even goods made locally tend to have a high import content because of lack of mineral resources. About 80 per cent of salaries and wages, it is estimated, are spent on goods or services which are wholly or partially imported.

The need for foreign exchange to finance this deficit has turned Mauritius from one of the most solvent into one of the 15 or so most indebted countries in the world in relation to the size of its economy. At the end of March of this year, the total public debt was estimated to amount to 7,785m rupees (£432m), of which 5,857m was owed to foreign banks, governments and institutions. The cost of servicing this debt in 1982-83 was estimated to be equal to between 35 and 40 per cent of recurrent government revenue. As most of Mauritius's foreign debt is denominated in US dollars, it is appreciating with the increasing strength of the American currency.

The social consequences have been severe. As job creation has tailed off, Mauritius has acquired a growing pool of unemployed whose numbers are now put at about 70,000, some 25 per cent of the entire work force. More than 60 per cent of the male, and about 50 per cent of the female, unemployed are between the ages of 15 and 24, and represent a social time-bomb. It is necessary not only to create jobs for the unemployed, but also to find work for the 10,000 new entrants that are coming on to the labour market each year.

Sugar, the traditional industry, cannot solve the unemployment problem. It is already very labour-intensive, and any moves towards greater profitability and efficiency will be in the areas of mechanization and

rationalization, which will reduce the number of jobs the industry can support. It will remain an important source of foreign exchange earnings, and thus a key factor in the overall health of the economy. But world demand for sugar, faced by competition from other kinds of sweeteners, is declining, and Mauritius is perilously dependent on continuation of assured access to the EEC market (in effect Britain) at a guaranteed price for the bulk of

its crop. The uncertainty created by the threat of nationalization has discouraged investment in modernization. Diversification is limited by the paucity of natural resources and the small amount of land available for uses other than raising sugar. Ninety-two per cent of the cultivated area is under sugar-cane, and tea is virtually the only other crop produced in large enough quantities for export, most of it

Loyalty to the Queen apparently intact, despite being forced to abandon home, furniture and livestock. One of the 1,200 Chagos refugees ponders her future.

new colony.

The islanders: a legacy of bitterness

In 1965, as the autumnal shadows were lengthening across what remained of the British Empire, Mr Anthony Greenwood, the Colonial Secretary of the day, was dispatched to Mauritius. His mission was to explain, on behalf of the recently elected Labour Government, with its well-known disapproval of neo-imperialist manoeuvres, the rather peculiar terms on which Britain was prepared to grant independence to the crown

colony after more than 150 years of British rule.

The essence of the deal was that Mauritius could have its independence, plus a sweetener of £1m in development aid, on condition that Britain retained for its own use a small group of islands, the Chagos Archipelago, lying some 1,200 miles to the north-east, which had traditionally been administered from Port Louis, the Mauritian capital. It was the start of the longest - and still not wholly resolved - political controversy in the island's post-independence history.

Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, then Prime Minister of Mauritius, accepted the British offer, defending the decision later on the grounds that, as a colony at the time, Mauritius had little choice in the matter, that gaining independence was the larger priority and that he had been deceived by British pledges that the excised outlying islands would be used only for communications purposes.

The decision did not go uncontested by local politicians. Sir (then Mr) Gaetan Duval, the right-wing Creole leader and current Deputy Prime Minister, had argued for a referendum on the independence issue. He favoured a status for Mauritius similar to that between France and its overseas departments such as Réunion. He has always maintained that Sir Seewoosagur accepted the British offer in return for London's rejection of the referendum proposal. In any event, the deal went ahead, despite the passage, in December, 1965, of a United Nations General Assembly resolution, urging Britain "to take no action which would dismember the territory of Mauritius". The Chagos Archipelago, together with three nearby islands, Desroches, Farquhar and Aldabra, formerly part of the Seychelles group, were proclaimed to be the British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT) - in effect, a completely

new colony. A year later, Britain signed a defence agreement with the United States under which the BIOT was leased to the Americans for defence purposes for 50 years, with an option of a further 20 years. Part of the deal with the Americans, it has been alleged, was a US\$11.5m discount on Polaris submarines. The terms of the agreement, signed by Lord Chalfont, on behalf of Mr George Brown, the Foreign Secretary, were not debated in Parliament.

The reason for the American interest in the BIOT was that Diego Garcia, an atoll no more than 11 square miles in area in the Chagos group of islands, would be a perfect spot from which to keep an eye on Soviet naval activities in the Indian Ocean, which were held to pose a growing threat to the security of the vital sea lanes carrying oil supplies to Western Europe, North America and Japan.

Over the next 10 years, the atoll was gradually developed by the Americans into their main military base in the Indian Ocean, with port facilities, warehouses, a sophisticated communications centre and a 12,000 ft runway capable of handling B52 bombers (within range of the Gulf, Diego Garcia was the launching pad for President Carter's ill-starred attempt to rescue the American diplomats held hostage in Iran).

Quite apart from the military pros and cons of this development, what was not generally realized was that Diego Garcia, at the time of its lease to the United States, had contained inhabitants, a fact initially concealed from Congress and the American public. The story of the *Ilots* - the Creole term for the Chagos Islanders - and their eviction from their homeland to make way for the base did not begin to emerge until 10 years later.

The settlement of the Chagos Archipelago began in the second half of the eighteenth century, when the French established a fishing company on Diego Garcia and also used it as a leper colony. After the British take-over in 1810, the sending of leprosy sufferers was abolished and the population grew to migrants coming not only from Mauritius, but also from Africa, Madagascar and India.

Just before Mauritius independence, Diego Garcia and

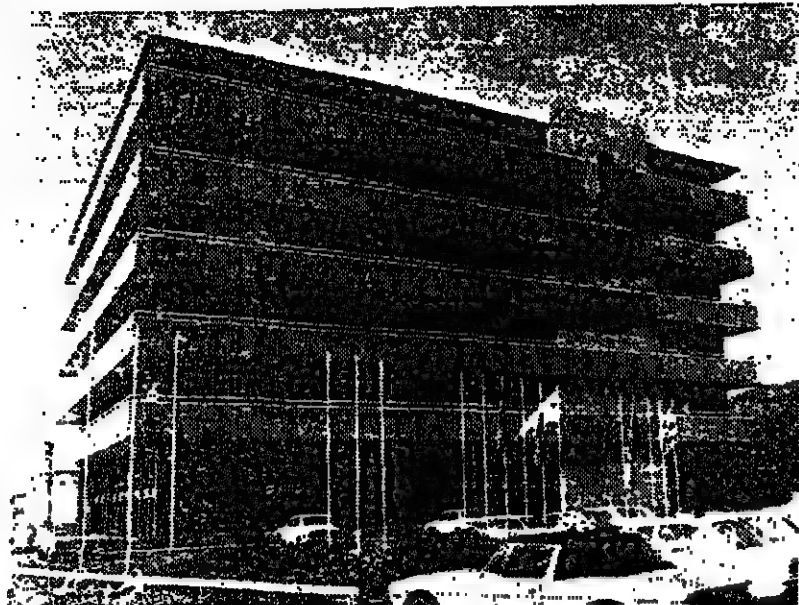
two other islets in the Chagos group, Peros Banhas and Salomon, may have contained anything up to 2,000 inhabitants. The men earned a small wage harvesting the local coconuts, which enabled them to take a ship to Mauritius from time to time to buy simple household goods. Life for the islanders seems to have been poor but happy. Most families had small kitchen gardens, in which they grew vegetables and reared poultry. Fish, including lobsters was in plentiful supply.

Final settlement for displaced islanders: A cheque for £1m is handed to Jean Claude de l'Estac, then Foreign Minister, by the British High Commissioner, J. N. Allan, in September 1982.

Later, when taxed with the islanders' eviction, the Foreign Office put up a smokescreen of deceit, claiming at first to have no knowledge of their numbers and then that the islanders were mostly temporary contract labourers who had been quite happy to leave. Unfortunately, a film shot by the Colonial Office in the 1950s not only extolled the idyllic nature of life on the islands, but also described them as being peopled "mostly by men and women born and brought up (there)". "The first British move was to stop the ferry service from Mauritius to Diego Garcia, so that *Ilots* in Mauritius on holiday or for shopping could

Continued on page 19

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Following the lovers on Dodo island

Before tourism began to grow - and it is still in its adolescence - Mauritius was best known for the Dodo and Bernadin de Saint Pierre's novel *Paul et Virginie*. The Dodo, stuffed and solemn, is to be found in the museum in Port Louis, the only sizeable harbour on the island and the bell of the St Geran, the ship on which the luckless Virginie sailed from France to rejoin her beloved Paul only to be washed up, dead, on the shore at his feet, is to be seen in Grand Port. I never found a bar called The Dodo, but there are one or two, usually dispensing rum punches, to the memory of Paul and Virginie. Those lovers are still very much part of the island. They have their regulation statue and Saint Pierre is on sale everywhere in editions, ranging from paperback to plump morocco-bound volumes for those with large suitcases. It is customary to enter at Saint Pierre, friend and contemporary of Rousseau, but in fact his novel is one of the best guides there is to the island. Saint Pierre picked up the story of the wreck of the Saint Geran while he was working in Madagascar, the nearest piece of inhabited land to the west once Réunion has been passed. But he got his Mauritian topography right and it is quite possible to follow some of the paths trod by the two lovers before Virginie was taken away from her island paradise to the corrupt world of Paris and her subsequent death at sea.

Mauritius still reckons itself an island paradise, and with some justification. Sugar used to be the industry on which it survived. Now it looks like being tourism. Visitors keep on coming, mainly at the moment from South Africa. Mauritius has quite a lot to offer them. There is good food for a start. The hotels in all too many tropical islands rely on catering packs supplemented by fruit and vegetables flown in from the nearest slice of mainland. Mauritius is large and fertile enough to grow its own and the markets in Port Louis and Curepipe, on the central plateau, are a joy to visit. Pineapples, papaya, mangoes, and other more exotic growths like the pungent breadfruit, sell at a few pence. Alternatively, should you be feeling particularly mean, a friendly taxi driver will probably park for a few moments under the appropriate tree. The better hotels take advantage of this and in the lead at the moment is the St

Geran on the east coast - more memories of Bernadin de Saint Pierre. The chef there, Barry Andrews, British-born and French-trained, takes his van and his colleagues to the markets to see what is on offer. The results of his researches can be read in *A Taste of Mauritius* (Macmillan, £8.95), although British cooks may find that not all the ingredients are readily available at the local supermarket.

The St Geran, originally owned by a South African company, Southern Sun, was linked earlier this year with two other hotels, the Tousserk and the Pirogue, acquired after a take-over bid. The Tousserk, a few miles south of the St Geran, had previously failed to live up to the aspirations of its architect who built its apartments out into the Indian Ocean. The Pirogue, which features in British Airways packages, on the other side of the island was a much livelier and more modestly priced concern.

Mauritius is scarcely short of accommodation, except in Port Louis itself. Few stop there

The secrecy captured by Conrad

any more, apart from visitors from Réunion or Madagascar. It is strictly a commercial town where the multitude of races - Creole, Chinese, Indian, African - which go to make up Mauritius each form their separate ethnic pockets. A doorway in one street will lead into the courtyard of a Hindu temple while a block away there will be a Catholic church. The secrecy of the town was best captured by Joseph Conrad in his novella *A Smile of Fortune* in *Twixt Land and Sea*, although he was careful not to identify Port Louis by name.

The tourists will head for the beach hotels, modest or grand, which ring the island like the sugar plantations, apart from an unattractive stretch of black pebbly coast near the airport of Plaisance. Some of the visitors will never get beyond their own stretch of sand and they will have squandered an opportunity, to go into the centre of the island, which is hugely rewarding, especially the road leading from La Morne Brabant in the south west to Chamarel and Plaine Champagne. Here are the forests and some of the



An island paradise, but there are more pleasures on Mauritius than sea and sand.

rarest birds in the world, including the pink pigeon and the Mauritius kestrel. Gerald Durrell has written about them in *Golden Bats and Pink Pigeons*; a young Welsh ornithologist called Carl Jones is trying to save them. The main enemy is the mongoose, introduced from India by the sugar farmers to kill the rats on the plantations. It was later discovered that the mongoose is prepared to eat practically anything else in sight. There is no shortage of mongooses in Mauritius.

Those who want something more exotic than windsurfing or marlin fishing - it is a pity

Hemingway never got to Mauritius, he would have enjoyed it - might consider treasure-hunting. The Saint Geran is not the only wreck on the reef which makes its serpentine way around the shore. And even the land itself has its caches. Leslie Thomas, of *Virgin Soldiers* fame, describes in the section on Mauritius in *A World of Islands* (published last month by Michael Joseph, £10.95) how he made, or rather helped make, a raft of banana and bamboo and was rewarded with the discovery of the noses of some cannon buried and forgotten in a muddy river estuary.

That was on the southern

Islanders' lament

Continued from page 18
not get back. They then bought out the sole employer of labour on the Chagos Islands and gradually ran down and finally closed the copra plantations. Food imports were also cut off. By these means, the *Ilois* were forced off their island home. Yet, according to the Foreign Office in 1976, "all went willingly and no coercion was used."

Most of the *Ilois* were initially dumped without homes or jobs and left to fend for themselves in the slums of Port Louis. In 1973, the British agreed to pay £650,000 in compensation to the displaced *Ilois* as "a full and final discharge of HMG's obligations." Wholly inadequate in the first place, this sum had been drastically reduced in value by inflation by the time the Mauritius Government finally got round to distributing it in 1978.

Under pressure, the British offered to pay a further £1.25m in 1979, but, at the same time, required every *Iloi* who received compensation to sign a legal document surrendering all claim or right to return to the BIOT. This was eventually rejected, and the *Ilois* continued to agitate for a better deal, some going on hunger strike.

It was not until 1982 that Britain finally agreed to increase compensation substantially. In July of last year, an agreement was signed with the Mauritius Government, under which Britain agreed to pay £4m (in addition to the original £650,000) as "full and final settlement of all claims whatsoever by or on behalf of the *Ilois*", which sum is now being distributed by a specially established trust fund. In addition, the Mauritius Government has agreed to provide land for the *Ilois* to the value of £1m.

This should mean that each of the estimated 900-plus *Ilois* families will get somewhere between £4,000-£4,500, about half what the *Ilois* had asked for, but still a great improvement on previous offers. They have, however, had to forfeit all further claims relating to "the closure of the plantations in the

Chagos Archipelago, the departure or removal of those living or working there, the termination of their contracts, their transfer to and resettlement in Mauritius and their preclusion from returning to the Chagos Archipelago."

This clause in the agreement makes nonsense of the earlier British position that "no coercion" had been used. It is also part of the agreement that a sum of £250,000 will be kept in the trust fund to enable the Mauritius Government to indemnify Britain should any individual *Ilois* successfully press further claims, despite the no-claim clause. Although the *Ilois* themselves now seem no longer to be an issue, the question of sovereignty over Diego Garcia remains. There is also the legacy of bitterness engendered by Britain's shabby treatment of its own citizens, as the former inhabitants of the BIOT are. The contrast with the treatment of the Falklanders could not be more stark. All British citizens are equal, but some, it seems, are more equal than others.

MH

A lurch to the West

Continued from page 17
continue to uphold the Mauritian claim to sovereignty over Diego Garcia and the Chagos Archipelago.

There is unlikely, however, to be any more talk of taking the matter to the International Court of Justice at the Hague, and earlier demands for the immediate closure of the American base will be dropped. Instead, the Government will argue that Diego Garcia can only be recovered as part of a general demilitarization of the Indian Ocean, which would also require the withdrawal of the Soviet Union from bases on the North-east African coast.

Even before the August elections Mr Jugnauth's MSM, which was formed after the MMM broke up last March and ruled for several months without a parliamentary majority, had imposed a ban on the supply of goods or workers to the American base, and allowed some 700 Mauritians to take jobs there.

It was pragmatically argued that an early closure of the base was not realistic, and that so long as it existed Mauritius might as well take advantage of the economic opportunities it offered.

Despite the more friendly attitude of the new Government, Britain and America are unlikely to alter their previous stance that Diego Garcia will only be returned once its military usefulness has been exhausted. They turned down an offer by the last Ramgoolam Government to continue leasing the atoll to the Americans, on payment of rental, in return for the restoration of Mauritius sovereignty, and there is no reason to suppose they will be any more amenable now.

So Diego Garcia remains a potential cause of friction, particularly if Mauritius's unpredictable politics produce another sudden change of regime. But the more relaxed attitude of the present Government in Port Louis, coupled with last year's settlement of the issue of financial compensation for the displaced *Ilois* has opened the way for a marked

improvement in British-Mauritian relations.

London moved quickly to capitalize on the new mood by dispatching Mr Alex Fletcher, a parliamentary under-secretary of state at the Department of Trade and Industry, to Mauritius at the end of September with £18m-aid package, which included a £12.215m line of credit and £4.4m towards the cost of a proposed £17.5m airport development scheme to be undertaken by the British Plessey group.

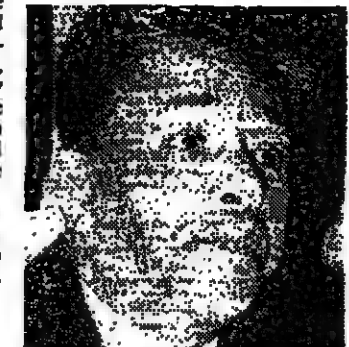
The improved atmosphere, however, will not reverse the decision of the previous government to sever Mauritius's last formal constitutional link with Britain by ending the Queen's

The Government does not have the three quarters majority in Parliament needed to make the switch to a republic on its own, and it is possible that the differences over the president's powers could cause some delay. Whatever happens, the present Governor-General, Sir Dayen-drath Burrenchobay, will retire at the end of the year, and he will be replaced by Sir Seewoosagur, either as governor-general or as the new president. Mauritius will remain a member of the Commonwealth.

Outside Europe and North America, relations with Middle Eastern and Far Eastern countries are likely to occupy a prominent position on Mauritius's foreign policy agenda because of the contribution it is felt they can make to alleviating some of the island's severe economic problems.

The new government hopes, for example, to persuade Hong-kong businessmen who are worried about the future of the Crown Colony after the expiry of the British lease in 1997 that Mauritius could provide a viable alternative base for their operations. The previous close relations with India are likely to be maintained despite Mauritius's more pragmatic approach on Diego Garcia, an issue dear to the heart of Mrs Indira Gandhi.

South African interests will also benefit from the new political alignment in Mauritius. South Africa is the second biggest source both of imports and tourists, and South African entrepreneurs have a major stake in the island's hotel business. South African Airways has landing rights in Mauritius, and Air Mauritius's lucrative Johannesburg route makes it one of the world's few profitable airlines. In opposition the MMM talked of severing these economic links, but quickly changed its tune once in office. Under the new regime, the South African position will be safer still, particularly if, as expected, the Government seeks to revive the economy with a major hotel-building programme.



Anerood Jugnauth, Prime Minister and Defence Minister in the new government, leads the swing back towards a more pro-western foreign policy.

role as head of state and replacing her with a Republican president, though this change may now take somewhat longer than originally envisaged.

All Mauritian political parties are agreed that the monarchy is an anachronism, particularly in view of the diverse origins of the island state's multi-racial population, but there is dispute about what the powers of the new president should be. The Government wants a non-executive president of the Indian type, while the Opposition favours some sharing of executive functions between the President and the Prime Minister.

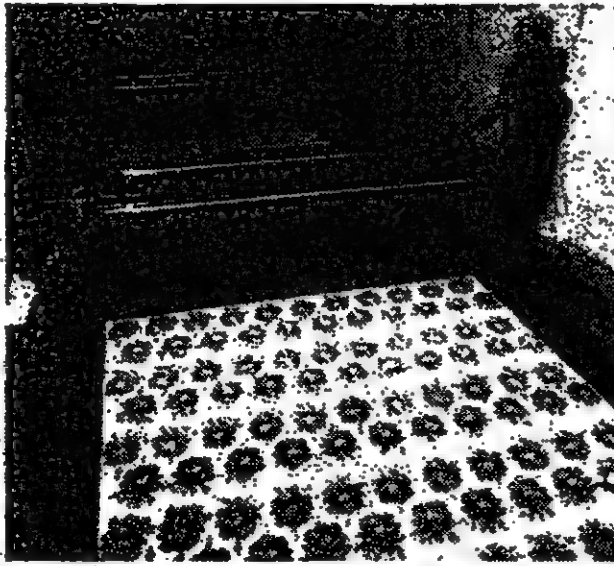
THIS IS MAURITIUS

Mauritius is one of the world's most beautiful places. A tropical island set in the blue Indian Ocean. It is also an island which is progressive, keen to develop and poised to become a centre for manufactured goods for world wide export.

Independent since 1968, Mauritius is peaceful and stable. It has a democratic government, is a member of the Commonwealth, an associate member of the EEC, a member of GATT, a member of the United Nations and a beneficiary under the General System of Preferences.

It offers investors a variety of benefits. There is an export processing zone system which enables raw materials to be imported duty free and processed into export items. Tax benefits are available, as well as duty-free concessions on machinery and equipment imports. Development finance is available at reasonable interest rates and industrial buildings can be provided by the Development Bank on very attractive terms.

The Government pursues a policy of free enterprise.



Sugar is the island's main product but it also has an amazing variety of manufactured goods particularly those requiring labour intensive operations. Mauritius ranks third among world exporters of woollen knitwear. It also produces soft toys, cuts and polishes diamonds, makes electronic components, assembles television sets and makes spectacle frames. Other products are plastic and leather goods, model boats, hand-made reproduction furniture and garments.

At present some 125 companies are operating under the Export Processing Zone system and exports currently amount to about £80-million annually.

Agriculture provides the backbone of the economy of Mauritius. The total gross area of the island is 1 865 km² and 60 percent is utilized for agriculture. Apart from sugar the main crops are tea, tobacco and a range of tropical and sub-tropical vegetables and fruits.



Mauritius is a tourist paradise. It is one of the most cosmopolitan places in the world. Its population includes people of Indian, Asian, Chinese, African and European descent. All these cultures combine to make Mauritius unique, unforgettable and a joy to know.

It has sophisticated tourist attractions without overcrowding and over-exploitation and few blemishes. It is a breathtaking combination of sun drenched beaches, crystal clear lagoons, mountain grandeur and lush vegetation.

For the tourist there is magnificent scenery with waterfalls and an extinct volcano, all types of water sports, mountain climbing, horse riding, night entertainment and casinos.

There is a good air service to the island and hotel facilities are up to the highest international standard. Four new hotels are being built during the year ahead as part of the drive to further develop the tourist potential of the island.

Food is excellent reflecting the varied origins of the Mauritius people.

Mauritius has good tarred roads to all parts of the island, taxis are cheap and plentiful and cars can be hired at reasonable rates.

The island is steeped in history having been visited by such famous figures as Darwin and Mark Twain.

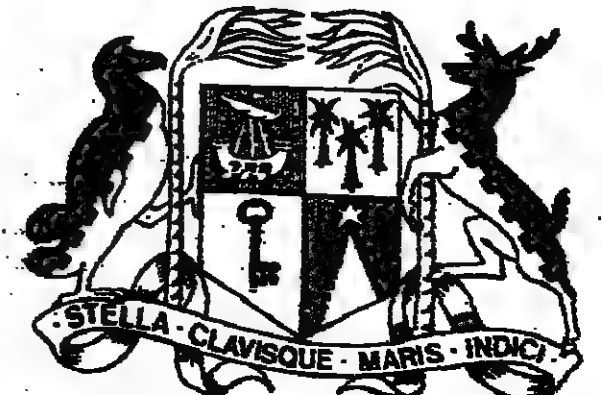
Come to Mauritius, the star and key of the Indian Ocean and step into a tropical paradise.

For further information contact: The Ministry of Information, New Government Centre, Port Louis, Mauritius

The Mauritius High Commission, 32/33 Elvaston Place, London SW 7

The Mauritius Investment Promotion Office, Hurst House, 157/169 Walton Road, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 ODX.

Tel: 01-941 5144 or 5024, Tlx 932689 IMES G.



This Prospectus contains particulars given in compliance with the Regulations of the Company of The Stock Exchange for the purpose of giving information with regard to Logica plc (the Company) and its subsidiaries. The Directors have taken all reasonable steps to ensure that the information contained in this Prospectus is true and correct and that no material has been omitted which would make misleading any statement herein. All the Directors accept responsibility for the contents of this Prospectus, having attached thereto the documents referred to in paragraph 800 of Appendix 3. This Prospectus is to be submitted to the Registrar of Companies for registration. Application has been made to the Company of The Stock Exchange for the whole of the share capital of the Company issued and now being offered, to be admitted to the Official List. The Ordinary Shares now offered for sale will rank in full for all dividends payable or paid on the Ordinary Shares capital of the Company. The application list for the Ordinary Shares now offered for sale will open at 10.00am, on Thursday 27th October, 1983 and may be closed at any time thereafter. The prospectus for application and an Application Form are available at the offices of the Company.

Logica

Logica plc Offer for Sale by Tender by Close Brothers Limited

of 10,400,000 Ordinary Shares of 10p each at a minimum tender price of 140p per share, the price tendered being payable in full on application.

Directors and Advisers

Directors

Philip Arthur Hughes, CBE, MA (Cantab.) (Chairman)
Leonard Arthur Taylor, MA (Oxon.), MSc (Managing Director)
Patrick Joseph Coen, BSc, PhD, DIC
Peter Crooks Harbridge, MA (Oxon.)
David William Mann, MA (Cantab.) (Deputy Managing Director)
David Mark Kenyon Matthews, BSc
Gordon Naizby Olson, BSc
Neil John Prebble
Colin Gilbert Rowland, MA (Oxon.), DPhil
Robert George Varley, FCA (Financial Director)
all of 64 Newman Street, London W1A 4SE.

Professor Dr. Carl Johan Friedrich Böttcher,
(Non-executive Director)
Nieuwe Schoolstraat 2a, 2514 HX The Hague, Netherlands

Secretary and Registered Office
Robert George Varley, FCA
64 Newman Street, London W1A 4SE

Issuing House
Close Brothers Limited, 36 Great St. Helen's, London EC3A 6AP

Stockbrokers
Hoare Govett Limited, Heron House, 319/325 High Holborn,
London WC1V 7PB and 27 Throgmorton Street, London EC2N 2AN

Joint Reporting Accountants
Robert Rhodes, Chartered Accountants, 186 City Road,
London EC1Y 2NU.

Joint Reporting Accountants
Price Waterhouse, Chartered Accountants, Southwark Towers,
33 London Bridge Street, London SE1 1SY

Solicitors to the Company
Clifford-Turner, Blackfriers House, 19 New Bridge Street,
London EC4V 6BT.

Solicitors to the Offer for Sale
Freshfields, Gmell House, 25 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7LH.

Principal Bankers
National Westminster Bank PLC, 21 Lombard Street,
London EC3P 3AR.
Barclays Bank PLC, 15 Great Portland Street, London W1A 4TR.
Algemene Bank Nederland NV, Blauk 28/34,
3000 DG Rotterdam, Netherlands.

Receiving Bankers
National Westminster Bank PLC, New Issues Department, PO Box 79,
2 Princes Street, London EC2P 2BD.

Registrars and Transfer Office
Close Registrars Limited, Arthur House, 803 High Road, Leyton,
London E15 7AA.

Key Information

The information below should be read in conjunction with the full text of this Prospectus from which it is derived.

Business

Logica is a leading European independent computer software, consultancy and products company, with an international capability and reputation.

Logica was established in 1969, has grown in turnover and staff every year, and currently has some 1,600 employees.

Logica's activities comprise:

- ☐ Consultancy and Project Management
- ☐ Custom-built Systems: Software and Hardware
- ☐ Software Products
- ☐ Office Automation

Logica's clients are mainly large companies or government departments and are broadly spread over many market sectors.

Logica has operating subsidiaries in seven countries and has undertaken projects in over 40 countries.

| Trading Record | Years ended 30th June | 1979 | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Turnover (£'000) | | 12,914 | 17,905 | 25,853 | 33,168 | 42,188 |
| Profit before taxation (£'000) | | 1,091 | 498 | 2,068 | 2,189 | 3,346 |
| Number of staff (at year end) | | 728 | 894 | 1,031 | 1,160 | 1,479 |

Offer for Sale Statistics

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Minimum tender price | 140p |
| Number of Ordinary Shares of 10p each in issue after the Offer for Sale | 35,000,000 |
| Market capitalisation | £49.0 million |
| Adjusted earnings per Ordinary Share for the year ended 30th June, 1983: | |
| (a) after actual tax charge | 73p |
| (b) after notional 52% tax charge | 53p |
| Price earnings multiple (based on adjusted earnings): | |
| (a) after actual tax charge | 19.1 |
| (b) after notional 52% tax charge | 26.6 |
| Gross dividend yield | |
| (based on indicated net dividend of 10p per Ordinary Share for the year ending 30th June, 1984) | 1.02% |
| Net tangible assets as at 30th June, 1983 per Ordinary Share (together with net proceeds of £5.15 million) | 42.9p |
| Percentage of enlarged issued share capital being marketed: | |
| by the Company | 12.1% |
| by existing shareholders | 17.6% |
| † Calculated in accordance with Note (viii) in Section 2 of the Accountants' Report set out in Appendix 1. | |

Shareholders

| Shareholders immediately after the Offer for Sale are set out below: | Percent of issued share capital |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Directors, Staff and Associates: | 39.4 |
| Existing Institutions: | 31.9 |
| Airways Pension Scheme | |
| CIN Industrial Investments Limited (on behalf of the NCB Pension Fund) | |
| Groupa Group | |
| F & C Management Limited | |
| Provincial Insurance PLC | |
| Silkeborg Industrial Investment PLC | |
| Standa Insurance Company Limited | |
| Stirling Shell Pension Funds | |
| The Scottish Investment Trust PLC | |
| Public: | 29.7 |
| | 100.0 |

The table above excludes any applications for shares by staff, their associates or existing institutions under the Offer for Sale and where applicable in relation to existing institutions, excluded shareholders, pension funds, trusts and funds managed by institutions or which have been.

Share Capital

| Authorised | Issued and now being offered by tender |
|------------|--|
| £3,739,000 | £3,500,000 |
| | in Ordinary Shares of 10p each |

Principal Definition

In this Prospectus 'Logica' shall mean Logica plc and its subsidiaries or previous ultimate holding companies and their subsidiaries or, where this context requires, Logica plc or any of its appropriate subsidiaries.

Indebtedness

At the close of business on 30th September, 1983 the Company and its subsidiaries had outstanding bank overdrafts of £4,630,700 (of which £123,708 was secured), leasing commitments of £382,635, hire purchase commitments of £267,845 and guarantees of £588,117. Save as aforesaid and apart from intra-group liabilities, at the close of business on 30th September, 1983 the Company and its subsidiaries had no other liabilities (including loan notes) outstanding or created but unissued, or any outstanding mortgages, charges, or other borrowings or indebtedness in the nature of borrowing, including bank overdrafts and liabilities under acceptances (other than normal trade 'bills') or acceptance credits, time purchase contracts, or guarantees or (except for contingent liabilities arising in the ordinary course of business) other material contingent liabilities. At the close of business on 30th September, 1983 the Company and its subsidiaries had aggregate cash balances of £242,715. For the purposes hereof amounts in foreign currencies have been translated into sterling at the relevant rates of exchange on 30th September, 1983.

History

Logica was founded in 1969 by a group of five people, including Philip Hughes, Len Taylor and Patrick Coen. Philip Hughes and Len Taylor, who were the initial executive directors, had already held senior management positions in the industry and had previously worked together for eight years.

From the beginning Logica set out to establish high technical standards and to achieve a prominent position in its markets of high technology consultancy and services. The success of this policy was reflected in Logica's ability to attract expert staff and to secure important contracts against larger and more established competitors.

The growth and diversification of Logica have been rapid and sustained. Both turnover and staff numbers have grown every year since its foundation. By the year ended 30th June, 1983 it had achieved a turnover of £42 million. It currently has some 1,600 employees in seven countries.

Logica's growth has been primarily from internal development which has been fuelled by a record of profitability and a policy of retaining profits. However, as a complement to this, Logica has also made a number of acquisitions, notably the operations of T. C. Hudson Associates Limited (1972), Freyberg Systems Associates, Incorporated (1981) and Planning Research Corporation (Australia) Pty Limited (1983).

Logica has emphasised overseas expansion and is one of the leading exporters of computer consultancy and software services from the UK. However it has increasingly serviced its international business through operating subsidiaries in different countries of the world, namely the Netherlands (established in 1975), Australia (1978), Sweden (1977), the US (1979), Belgium (1980) and West Germany (1983).

Logica obtained its original finance from Planning Research Corporation ('PRC'), a listed US professional services company. After an initial period Logica's staff held a voting majority of the shares while PRC's shareholding entitled it to a majority of the profits and assets.

Early in 1979 PRC sold its shareholding in Logica and the National Enterprise Board ('NEB') became a shareholder providing both equity and loan finance. In December 1979, institutional shareholders also subscribed for additional equity. In 1982 the NEB realised its investment in Logica and, as part of the resulting reorganisation, further institutional investors were introduced. At that time £1.5 million was raised to expand working capital.

In 1979 Logica decided to establish a division, which had been working on word-processing systems, as a separate operating company called Logica VTS Limited ('VTS'). The NEB provided separate funding for this. A subsidiary of the NEB, Neze Office Systems Limited ('Neze'), entered into supply and marketing arrangements with VTS which were later terminated in 1982. At that time, International Computers PLC ('ICL') signed an agreement with VTS involving volume orders for word-processors and a research and development contract.

Logica's record of technological achievement has been recognised recently by the following awards—

November 1982—the British Computer Society's annual award for Technological Achievement for its work on continuous speech recognition

February 1983—a citation by Computing newspaper as 'the UK company which in the opinion of Computing's panel of experts made the greatest contribution to information technology during the decade 1973-1983'

April 1983—the Queen's Award for Technology to VTS for its word-processors.

Logica has become the largest independent UK software company, measured by turnover or number of staff.

Description of Activities

Logica's activities can be divided into four broad categories, which contributed to turnover for the three years ended 30th June, 1983 approximately as follows:

| | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 |
|---|------|------|------|
| Consultancy and Project Management | 22 | 27 | 19 |
| Custom-built Systems: Software and Hardware | 47 | 52 | 48 |
| Software Products | 4 | 5 | 10 |
| Office Automation | 20 | 16 | 23 |
| | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Office automation contributed approximately 37 per cent. of Logica's profit before taxation in 1983 (1982—19 per cent., 1981—17 per cent.). In other activities Logica analyses its profit by its professional operating units, which encompass more than one of the categories set out above.

Each of Logica's major activities reinforces the others. Consultancy can often lead to contracts for the provision of custom-built software and hardware. Client projects can lead to the development of new services and products. Product design and manufacture provide first-hand experience which strengthens Logica's consulting capability.

Consultancy and Project Management

Logica undertakes consultancy assignments in computing, communications, office automation and management sciences for a wide range of clients. Examples include designing and managing the installation of worldwide corporate telecommunications for multi-national companies, defining overall data-processing policies for organisations, specifying detailed requirements in computing and communications and assisting clients to select suppliers, negotiate contracts and install and manage systems. Management sciences projects involve planning models for businesses and government administrations, such as health and social security, to improve investment and operational decisions.

In addition to its work for users, Logica has established a strong position as an adviser to the computing and telecommunications industries on product policy, marketing strategy and detailed market research. Work includes advice to major US and Japanese companies seeking information on the European market, market forecasts for European and Australian telecommunications authorities on data transmission and new communications services and detailed product definition studies for manufacturers in Europe and the US. In addition to specific consultancy projects for individual clients, Logica also undertakes multi-client and industry-wide studies.

Custom-built Systems: Software and Hardware

The largest activity of Logica is designing and building complex software. Clients are usually large organisations, themselves sophisticated and expert users of computers. Logica's role is to supply systems that draw upon its special capabilities in real-time control and communications. Logica works on equipment of most of the world's major suppliers of mainframe, mini and micro computers.

Logica often acts as prime contractor for the turnkey supply of computer systems. As Logica has grown so has its ability to compete with the major electronic contractors for steadily larger contracts. Such contracts, which involve the responsibility for managing the work of sub-contractors, are normally based on standard products purchased by Logica from computer manufacturers at a discount under OEM (original equipment manufacturer) agreements.

In addition to using standard hardware, Logica also designs and manufactures its own special purpose hardware. This enables Logica to address the needs of clients both by custom-built software, which makes extensive use of specially configured hardware, and by custom-built hardware. Logica has consistently maintained this dual capability rather than just being a software house, and the Directors consider that this has been a major factor in its growth, distinguishing it from many competitors.

Software Products

Logica designs and sells re-usable elements of software. Such software products, which in some cases include specially configured hardware, fall into two categories—those which Logica calls 'systemic elements' that are used as components in the supply of custom-built computer systems and those that are sold by volume as standardised products in their own right. Royalties are payable by Logica on the sale of some of these products.

A systems kernel is used as the basis for constructing a number of computer systems for similar applications. Each project involves some modification and often substantial additions to the systems kernel. However, its existence enables Logica to transfer previously developed expertise to projects around the world and to provide lower cost and more reliable software to clients. For the banking industry, systems kernels such as FASTRYX and FASTRAN form the basis of funds transfer systems, while DISCO provides an integrated display system for foreign exchange dealing rooms. For the television industry Logica supplies CONTEXT, which enables television companies to implement teletext and FLAIR which provides facilities for the creation and manipulation of pictures stored in electronic form. For the energy industry and utilities MASTER CONTROL forms the basis of control systems for gas, oil and water storage and distribution. INSIGHT and LOGOS provide facilities for image processing and continuous speech recognition respectively in various applications.

Logica also sells general purpose and standardised software products, primarily RAPPORT and XENIX. RAPPORT is a sophisticated relational database system designed by Logica to run on a wide variety of computers. XENIX, developed in the US, is an enhanced version of UNIX. UNIX is becoming one of the world's de facto standard computer operating systems. XENIX and UNIX are respectively trademarks of Microsoft and Bell Laboratories.

Office Automation

As one of the pioneers of software design for word-processing, Logica has been involved in office automation since the early 1970s. It developed UNICOM, an advanced multi-user system, for Unilever. Since then Logica has continued to increase its specialist expertise in word-processing software and local area networks. This has led to the establishment of volume manufacturing facilities in Swindon in 1980.

Logica currently designs, manufactures and sells the VTS 2000 range of word-processors, powerful single-user units, developed from the VTS 1000, which was first launched by Logica in 1978. The Directors believe that sales of the VTS 2000 range will exceed those of Logica's own sales force, and through distributors currently account for over 20 per cent. of Logica's turnover in the UK. In the last financial year 13 per cent. of Logica's turnover (58 per cent. of its turnover for office automation activities) resulted from sales of the VTS 2000 to ICL, under a long-term agreement which is described under the next section, 'Market Sectors and Clients—office automation'.

Logica also manufactures and sells POLYNET, which is a local area network based on the Cambridge Ring technology. Systems are installed in the UK, the US, Australia, Switzerland, Yugoslavia and Italy. Logica also manufactures and sells the VTS 8000, a 386 personal business computer, based on the VTS 2000 hardware design.

The Directors believe that Logica has one of the leading software development teams in Europe's word-processing and local area network technology. The result of this is the continuous development of office automation products in well-developed markets.

Appendix 1

Accountants' Report

The following is a copy of a Report to the Directors of Logica plc and to the Directors of Close Brothers Limited made by Robson Rhodes, Chartered Accountants, the auditors and joint reporting accountants, and Price Waterhouse, Chartered Accountants, joint reporting accountants.

Price Waterhouse, Chartered Accountants
Robson Rhodes, Chartered Accountants
188 City Road, London EC1Y 2NU.

The Directors, Logica plc and the Directors, Close Brothers Limited, Gentlemen.

We have examined the financial information set out below of Logica plc (the Company) and its subsidiaries (together referred to as the Group) for the five years from 1st July 1978 to 30th June 1983. The auditors of the Group throughout this period have been Robson Rhodes, Chartered Accountants.

During the five year period a number of Group reorganisations have taken place, which have involved the creation of successive new holding companies and changes in shareholders and the capital structure of the Group.

A further capital reorganisation was undertaken, effective 20th October, 1983, whereby all subsidiary companies of Logica plc have become wholly owned, other than Logica, Inc. in which there remains a 19.8 per cent. minority interest. The financial information set out in this report has been prepared on the basis that the Group had been in existence with its present constitution (but excluding new shares issued in connection with this Offer for Sale) throughout the five year period. The results for Freyberg Systems Associates, Incorporated and Planning Research Corporation (Australia) Pty. Limited have been consolidated from their respective dates of acquisition by the Group. The financial information is based on the audited financial statements of Logica plc and its subsidiaries after making such adjustments as we consider appropriate.

In our opinion the financial information set out under the heading Historical Cost Accounts gives, under the historical cost convention and on the basis of the information set out above, a true and fair view of the profits and losses and application of funds of the Group for the five years ended 30th June 1983 and of the state of affairs of the Company and the Group at 30th June, 1983.

In our opinion the financial information set out under the heading Current Cost Accounts has been properly prepared in accordance with the policies and methods described in the notes thereto to give the information required by Statement of Standard Accounting Practice No. 16.

No audited financial statements have been prepared for the Company or the Group for any period subsequent to 30th June, 1983.

Financial Cost Accounts

1. Accounting policies

The significant accounting policies adopted in arriving at the financial information in this report are as follows:

(i) Turnover
Turnover represents amounts invoiced to clients net of amounts billed in advance and excluding VAT.

(ii) Recognition of profits
(a) Profit on contracts for the supply of professional services at pre-determined rates is taken as and when the contract is billed irrespective of the duration of the contract.
(b) Profit is taken on fixed price contracts when the contract is in progress, having regard to the proportion of the total contract which has been completed at the balance sheet date. Provision is made for any foreseeable future losses based on an estimate of the direct costs to be incurred.

(iii) Stock and work in progress
(a) Physical stock and work in progress is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.
(b) The valuation of work in progress on fixed price contracts is adjusted to take up profit to date or foreseeable losses in accordance with (ii)(b) above.
(c) Other work in progress is valued at cost or at estimated net realisable value if lower. Cost comprises:
Professional work in progress valued at the cost of salaries and associated payroll expenses of employees engaged on assignments and a proportion of attributable overheads.
Unbilled expenses incurred and equipment purchased for clients in connection with specific contracts.

(iv) Research and development
Research costs are written off in the year in which they are incurred unless they are to be reimbursed by third parties. Development costs are also written off in the year in which they are incurred unless they are to be reimbursed by third parties or they result in the production of an identifiable saleable product.

(v) Goodwill
Goodwill is stated at cost and represents the excess of the cost of acquisition of subsidiaries over related net tangible assets at the date of acquisition.

(vi) Depreciation
Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of all tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives on a straight-line basis. The annual rates of depreciation used are as follows:
Office equipment — 10 per cent.
Computer equipment — 10 per cent. for the year ended 30th June, 1983, 33 1/3 per cent. for previous years.
Motor cars — 25 per cent.
Plant — 20 per cent.
Tooling — 50 per cent.
Leasehold — equally over life of lease.

(vii) Foreign currency translation
The assets, liabilities and trading results of foreign subsidiaries are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the relevant balance sheet date. Differences arising on retranslation of the net investment in foreign subsidiaries and related net foreign currency borrowings are dealt with as adjustments to reserves.
All other differences on exchange are taken to the profit and loss account.

(viii) Deferred taxation
Provision is made for deferred taxation, at the rate of tax ruling at the relevant balance sheet date, to take account of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for accounts purposes and their treatment for tax purposes. The provision is maintained to the extent that timing differences are not expected with reasonable probability to continue into the foreseeable future.

(ix) Finance lease income
Income from finance leases is taken to profit and loss account based on a constant periodic rate of return on the net cash investment in each lease.

2. Consolidated profit and loss accounts
The profit and loss accounts of the Group for each of the five years ended 30th June, 1983 are set out below:

| Consolidated profit and loss accounts | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| The profit and loss accounts of the Group for each of the five years ended 30th June. | | | | | |
| £'000 are set out below | | | | | |
| | Years ended 30th June | | | | |
| Notes | 1979 | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 |
| Turnover | £700 | £700 | £700 | £700 | £700 |
| Less: Depreciation (Decrease) in stocks | 12,914 | 17,905 | 25,853 | 33,188 | 42,185 |
| Less: Amortised goods and work in progress | 1,145 | 645 | (135) | 162 | 2,238 |
| Profit before taxation | 14,069 | 18,550 | 25,655 | 33,330 | 44,423 |
| Less: Taxation | 4,557 | 5,992 | 6,263 | 8,580 | 12,212 |
| Profit after taxation | 9,512 | 12,558 | 19,392 | 24,750 | 32,211 |
| Less: Depreciation and other amounts | 1,145 | 645 | (135) | 162 | 2,238 |
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WHY A PATEK PHILIPPE IS THE COSTLIEST WATCH TO PRODUCE AND ONE OF THE FINEST INVESTMENTS YOU CAN OWN.

It takes nine months to complete the Golden Ellipse shown here. Sometimes even several years for a complicated Patek Philippe model. And once the watch is finally assembled and working perfectly, it is taken apart again to be further refined.

Every element is microscopically hand-finished to a tolerance which represents a fraction of the thickness of a human hair. Every wheel, gear, pinion and cog is polished by hand until it is virtually frictionless.

Just as most Patek Philippes are handed down from one generation to the next, so are the tools that Patek Philippe watchmakers use to perfect them – heirlooms that have become as precious as they are indispensable.

After 600 hours of testing, regulating and refining to as near absolute perfection as human hands and minds can achieve, each watch is lubricated so delicately that it takes less than a cupful of oil for an entire year's production.

Everything about a gold Patek Philippe that can be gold, is gold – 18 kt. gold – right down to the dial, the winding crown, the strap buckle, and the spring bars that hold the strap to the watch. In automatic Patek Philippes, even the winding rotors are of solid gold, since the additional weight increases the winding efficiency.

But gold has never represented more than 25% of the cost of a Patek Philippe watch. The real cost is in the

time, patience, tradition and absolute dedication to flawlessness that makes it a Patek Philippe.

Like any other work of art by an acknowledged master, a Patek Philippe appreciates in value because the scarcity of such quality is growing at a disheartening rate.

Queen Victoria, Tchaikowsky, Roosevelt, Lindbergh... but a few of the famous who have worn a Patek Philippe. Others wear one this very minute, and constitute a long and impressive roll-of-honour.

Patek Philippe is possibly the only watch manufacturer ever to have a comprehensive book devoted exclusively to it. This volume retraces Patek Philippe's history since 1839 and describes with 600 illustrations many of its rare timepieces.

It includes Patek Philippe watch No. 27.368, the first Swiss wristwatch ever made. It was sold in 1868 – for a comparatively modest sum – to the Countess Kocevicz of Hungary. Today the value of this watch is estimated at \$ 50.000. Or watch No. 761.478 – one of the earlier Patek Philippe self-winding models – sold in 1955 for \$ 475. We bought it back last year, at an auction, for almost five times its initial value which, when you think of it, makes one wonder:

Can you afford to invest in anything less than a Patek Philippe?



FOR MASTERS OF THEIR TIME.

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Investment
and FinanceCity Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ
Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

Friday's close and week's change.

FT Index: 689.8 up 11.3
FT 100: 81.60 up 0.5
FT All Share: 430.93 up 3.28
Bargains: 17,083
Distressed: 10,000
New York Dow Jones
Average: 1248.88 down 14.64
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones
Index: 9,370.21 up 46.58
Hongkong: Hang Seng
Index: 784.92
Amsterdam: 149.3 down 2
Sydney: AO Index: 688.5
down 3.9
Frankfurt: Commerzbank
Index: 100.0 up 26.6
Basel: General Index
125.24 down 2.37
Paris: CAC Index: 139.7
down 1.4
Zurich: SKA General: 291.5
up 2.3

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5020 down 0.002
Index 83.3 unchanged
DM 3.8800 down 0.05
Fr 11.8410 down 0.154
Yen 349.25 down 0.25
Marka 125.6 down 0.8
DM 2.5820 down 0.038

NEW YORK CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5008 down 0.0052
Dollar DM 2.60 down 0.02

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rate 9
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week
fixed 9
3 month interbank 9 1/4-9 1/2
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9 1/4-9 1/2
3 month DM 5 1/4-5 1/2
3 month Fr 13 1/4-13 1/2

US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9 1/4
Treasury long bond 104 1/2-104 3/4

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period September 7, to
October 4, 1983 inclusive:
9.719 per cent.

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interims: Bishopsgrange Trust, Reed Executive, Finlay's, Border & Southern Stockholders Trust, Highland Distillers, Japan Assets.

TOMORROW - Interims: English National Investment, First Charlotte Assets Trust, Francis Industries, Hamilton Oil Great Britain, Kwik-Fit (Tyres & Exhausts) Holdings, OK Bazaars (1982), Richardson, Westgate (amended), Runciman, The Times Venture Co, Vantage, Currency Fund, Waco Group, Finalis Fairview Estates, New Australia Investment Trust, Peachey, Samuel Properties.

WEDNESDAY - Interims: Advance Services, Anglo American Coal Corp, Avana Group, Bossey & Hawkes, Border Breweries (Wrexham), Foster Brothers Clothing (amended), Gill & Duffus Group, Henderson Group, TR Natural Resources Investment Trust, Union Carbide, Bort, Finlay's, Assets Trust, Rowland Gaunt, TR Australia Investment Trust.

THURSDAY - Interims: Allied Leather Industries, Barlows, Coates Brothers, De Vere Hotels and Restaurants, Feb International Norman Hay, Philip Hill Investment Trust, ICI (third quarter), Nineteen Twenty-Eight Investment Trust, Portsmouth and Sunderland Newspapers, Toshiba Corporation, United Ceramic Distributors, Weeks Associates, Finalis: David Dixon Group, McKechie Brothers, Manasse Bronze Holdings, S. Simpson, Stewart & Wight, Stockline Holding, Walker & Homer Group.

FRIDAY - Interims: Aero Needles Group, Clayton Son & Co. Holdings, Sir Joseph Causton & Sons, Cole Group, GT Global Recovery Investment Trust, Hopkinson, John C. Small & Tidman, TR Industrial & General Trust, Websters Group, Finalis: Burgess Products, Ulster Television.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

TOMORROW - Apex Properties, 243/247 Pavilion Road, Stone Square, SW1 (noon); Associated Deities Group, Headingly Pavilion, St Michael's Lane, Leeds (2.30); Fashion & General Investment, The Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, EC2 (noon); Fleming Overseas Investment Trust, P&O Building, (2nd floor), 122 Leadenhall Street, EC3; Inny Property Holdings, Cornhill Rooms, Great Queen Street, WC2 (noon).

WEDNESDAY - Bogod-Peleph, High Holborn House, Holborn House, (noon); Filinvest, Berkeley Court Hotel, Lansdowne Road, Dublin (noon); Strid, Flarshaw Lane, Alverthorpe, Wakefield (noon); Zetters Group, Clerkenwell Conference Centre, Clerkenwell Green, EC1 (11.30).

THURSDAY - Cantors, 164-170 Queens Road, Sheffield (12.30); Datastream, Butchers' Hall, 87 Bartholomew Close, EC1 (10.10); Palmerston Investment Trust, Hendon Hall Hotel, Ashley Lane, NW4 (11.00); The Henrick Group, Peapack, Devon (noon); J Saville Gordon Group, Midland Hotel, New Street, Birmingham (noon).

Company policy under fire from investor group

Gulf Oil prepares to fight off possible £10bn takeover bid

By Michael Press
Gulf Oil, one of the world's biggest oil companies, is preparing its defences against a possible takeover bid from the investor group which has built up a strategic stake in the company.

It is also getting ready to fend off further demands for changes in management policy from the group.

A bid would be worth at least \$10,000m (£6,700m) and would be one of the biggest takeover attempts ever mounted.

But Gulf Oil, which is one of the ten biggest American corporations, stressed yesterday that it had not been notified of a bid and that no mention of a takeover was made in the share purchase documents filed by the group with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Financial sources suggested that the aim might be to force

up the value of Gulf shares, which are trading at between \$45 and \$47.

It is argued that the composition of the mainly Texan investor group supports this interpretation. It is led by Mr T. Boone Pickens, president of Mesa Petroleum, a Texas company which was involved last year with Gulf in a battle for control of Cities Service, another mainly oil company.

The group bought 8.75 per cent or 18.4 million shares in Gulf last week for \$630m. It said then, in its SEC filing, that the

purchase was for investment only, but it also revealed credit line amounting to \$1,100m.

It is understood, however, that four banks have withdrawn their support for the Mesa group.

At the same time, the Gulf board has bought more of its own shares, raising the number of Treasury shares to 45 million out of a total of 210 million.

BP sees US profits recovery next year

From David Young, New York

\$324m, but profits and investments in the US will start to rise next year.

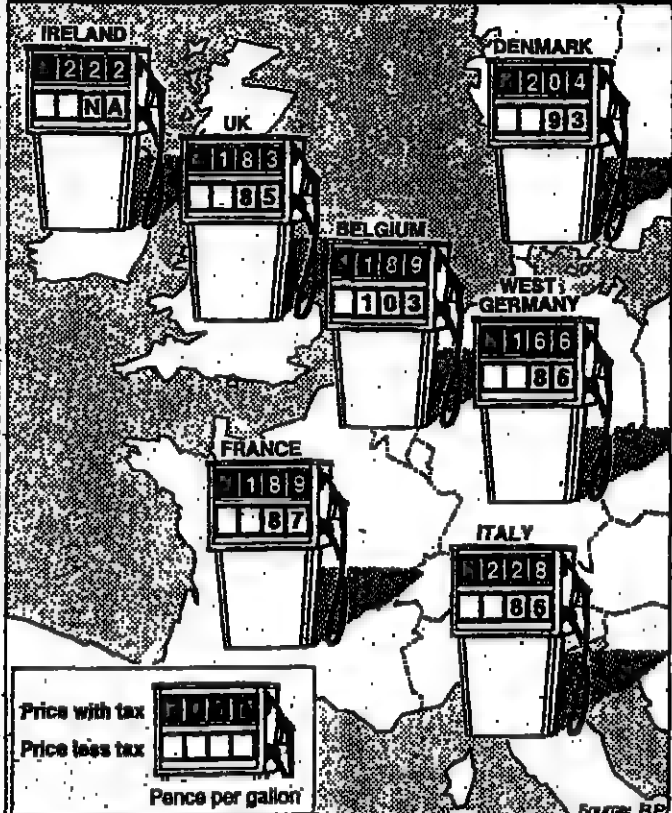
BP will also benefit from increased profits expected from its 53 per cent stake in Sohio of Cleveland, which has paid dividends averaging \$340m a year and \$80m a year in royalty payments from its Prudhoe Bay oilfields in Alaska.

Mr Alastair Manson, the subsidiary's president, said that the profits from the two US companies supported BP's policy of maintaining in the US what are effectively two separate oil companies.

Although BP has 53 per cent of Sohio, it has a minority on the board of the company.

Mr Manson said: "We see no reason to change the set-up."

Petrol price comparisons in Europe



Drop in petrol prices expected as sales flop

Despite fears of short-term oil price rises because of the Iraq-Iran war, Britain is likely to benefit from a petrol price cut this winter.

The Houston-based Petroleum Information Corporation has reported that the seasonal increase in oil sales on the spot market has failed to materialize and that oil industry experts believe a settlement of the oil supply problems created by the war could be negotiated by the start of next year.

The effect of this, says PIC, would be more stable oil supplies and a softening of prices, replacing the present nervousness in the market which has led to short-term price increases.

Oil price stability has already

led leading British suppliers and the small independent companies who draw supplies from the Rotterdam spot market to consider price cuts to stimulate demand in the winter.

Officials of at least one of the big four suppliers in Britain feel that profit margins - most filling stations are making at least 7p on every gallon sold - could be trimmed so that petrol could drop to £1.80 a gallon from its present £1.83.7p.

Britain already has the cheapest pre-tax petrol in Europe, although there is no prospect of cuts taking prices to the level enjoyed by the German motorist, and the oil companies have already said that cuts could be followed by large increases in 1984-1985.

Unitary tax talks hit snag

By Our Financial Staff

The British and American Governments are locked in delicate negotiations over which British company should be represented on the presidential working party set up to investigate unitary taxation.

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, agreed with Mr Donald Regan, the US Treasury Secretary, during her recent visit to the United States that the chief executive officer of the American subsidiary of a British company should be on the working party.

But one leading British company withdrew after its name had been put forward, and discussions are in progress about the suitability of an alternative.

Under unitary taxation a government taxes a business within its jurisdiction on the percentage of its local operation represented by the worldwide turnover, profits, assets and payroll of the business of which it is part. Thirteen American states apply unitary taxation to foreign companies.

European and Japanese companies have argued strongly that this method results in taxes higher than those incurred under the normal system of taxing locally earned profits. Governments are also worried that the spread of unitary taxation could undermine double taxation treaties.

But in June the United States Supreme Court upheld the right of states to levy unitary taxes. The presidential working party was set up after foreign governments, including the British, had put heavy pressure on the American administration to introduce legislation to abolish unitary tax.

The working party, whose membership was recently raised from 18 to 24, comprises representatives from the American government, companies, unions, and pressure groups.

Park Lane sale plan by Trident

By Our Financial Staff

Trident Television is considering the sale of 45 Park Lane, the former Playboy Club premises, for which it has obtained change-of-use permission. Trident is also seeking a new home for the Village Club casino, but it denied it was for sale.

It also denied that it was selling the Connoisseur Club - the licence for which has been transferred from below a pizza parlour in Fulham Road, West London, to the Royal Garden Hotel, Kensington. A new room, called the VIP Room, with a small number of tables has been created within the Victoria casino.

City analysts suggested that these moves were designed to enhance Trident's value before the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report, expected next month, into the bid for the company from Pleasurama. A

Malaysia considers loans inquiry

Kuala Lumpur (Reuters) - Malaysia may establish a commission of inquiry to investigate bad loans made by Bank Bumiputera's Hongkong subsidiary to property firms in the Colony.

Datu-Seri Mahathir Mohamad, the prime minister, said the Government was also considering issuing a report to parliament on the affair, which has started political controversy within Malaysia's ruling coalition.

Political sources said Dr Mahathir had been under pressure to move on the issue since the disclosure in Hongkong of the extent of the state-owned Bank's lending to developers using the bankrupt Carrian Group.

Two weeks ago the Government rejected opposition calls for a royal commission of inquiry after Dr Mahathir said senior executives had taken money from Hongkong borrowers while advancing the loans.

He claimed that directors of Bumiputera Malaysia Finance (BMF), as the Hongkong subsidiary is known, received \$HK3.3m (£280,000) in "consultancy fees" from developers, he said.

However, Dr Mahathir said the Government could not take action against BMF employees because they had done nothing illegal.

Mr Nawani Mat Awai, the chairman of Bank Bumiputera, said recently that BMF board members and other senior officers would resign. The BMF board would be restructured and expanded.

A Hongkong court was told three weeks ago that the Carrian Group owed BMF at least \$HK4.6 billion.

But financial analysts believe Carrian's creditors are owed more than \$HK10 billion. Mr George Tan, Carrian chairman, and Mr Bentley Ho, its executive director will appear before a Hongkong court on November 23 on charges of making false statements. Mr Ho is also charged with false accounting.

Bank Bumiputera, set up to channel funds to Bumiputras (indigenous Malays) has come under fire from opposition groups who claim the loans to Hongkong Chinese developers are a national scandal.

City Editor's Comment

Logical secret of software survival

Logica, which is coming to the stock market via a tender offer for sale, should not be confused with the run-of-the-mill computer software houses. It is altogether a different proposition.

It has already grown accustomed as a rounded operation, rich in talent, to the disciplines imposed on quoted companies through its extensive institutional shareholders.

Although the computer industry has lost much of its exuberance in recent months Logica should still command a warm reception with the realistic tender prices encouraging interest.

Close Brothers, the 100-year-old merchant bank conducting its first big new issue since the 1960s, and the stockbrokers Hoare Govett, have chosen an enticingly low base price.

At 140p the shares are offered at only 19.1 times last year's earnings. Even allowing for the computer industry's loss of some of the bright eyed enthusiasm this is a remarkably low rating.

The comfortable way the underwriting was completed is further evidence that a much higher striking price will be achieved - say 180p - and investors keen to capture a stake in Europe's largest independent software group may feel that bids nudging 200p may be necessary to ensure success.

The company's profit record, despite a few uncomfortable blips, is sound enough. In its last financial year it made £3,346m pretax, against £2,159m last time.

Once partly owned by the state-backed British Technology, Logica, ahead of the share sale, is controlled by its staff with institutional shareholders accounting for the rest.

After the sale 38.4 per cent will be held by directors and staff, 31.9 per cent by the existing band of institutions and the rest by outside shareholders.

Some of the shares on

offer come from the board and the institutions. But the offer will bring £5.15m into the group, wiping out borrowings, and helping lift assets per share to 42.9p.

As a high-tech, growth stock, assets and dividend yield (a mere 1.02 per cent on the forecast one penny a share) are derisory.

Prospects in the name of this particular computer game and Logica is better endowed than most to survive and prosper in the fiercely competitive world it has straddled so successfully since it was founded by five computer men 14 years ago.

Obscured view of TV bids

The Independent Broadcasting Authority's new guidelines on financial advertising, announced in May and just published in a new code, fail to make it clear whether television can be used to wage war during bids.

But the short answer is that it cannot. On the advice of the Stock Exchange, the IBA and the Independent Television Companies Association vetting committee decided to ban bid advertising.

These bodies say it may be a subtle point, but they will accept advertisements for prospectuses because they are aimed at the public, bid adverts are obviously aimed at a much narrower audience - the shareholders of the company under fire.

The Stock Exchange's view is that bid advertising is acceptable in newspapers because there is space to set out the terms in enough detail to remove ambiguity. But a 30-second television advertisement is not long enough to convey that sort of information.

The television industry view is that it could cope with advertisement and would like to see a further liberalization: several potential advertisers have already had to be turned away.

Brengreen seems set to take over Sunlight

By Wayne Lintott

The £36m takeover battle for Sunlight Services ends its climax with both Brengreen (Holdings) and the Sunlight board claiming to control about 30 per cent of the equity.

The final offer closes on Wednesday afternoon, and if Brengreen buys the 7.8 per cent of Sunlight it is allowed to in the open market, as widely expected the predator will need only 12.2 per cent acceptance over the next two days to gain control.

Brengreen had already acquired 7.8 per cent in the open market and last week revealed acceptance of a further 4 per cent.

The Sunlight board controls 26 per cent through beneficial and non-beneficial holdings,

while its largest institutional shareholder, Britannic Assurance, holds 11 per cent.

That leaves the contest dependent on the 12 per cent controlled by institutions but mainly by small shareholders.

A large block of Sunlight shares was sold in the market on Friday, pushing the price down 15p to 235p before a buyer - not Brengreen - bought them, pushing the price back up to 255p.

Mr David Evans, chairman of Brengreen, responded to last week's Sunlight defence document by drawing attention to Sunlight's share price. "Before we bid they were 176p, now they are 255p and we are offering 300p in the shares and cash."

Decision soon on Crown Agents

Mr Timothy Raison, Minister for Overseas Development, is expected to decide in the next month whether to maintain the Crown Agents as an independent body.

Their future has been in doubt since the Sultan of Brunei decided to withdraw £3,000m funds from the Agents' investment management side. The profits on managing this portfolio are thought to have been about £1.5m a year and without these the Agents are unprofitable.

Mr Raison is believed to be sceptical about the need for the Agents' existence - a view which the Treasury and Foreign Office are said to share.

Industry's unprecedented move against price plan

Car companies unite to fight EEC

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The car-making industries of Europe are today joining forces in an unprecedented attempt to kill a piece of European Commission draft legislation aimed at harmonizing car and lorry prices and increasing competition among distributors.

The proposed regulations, welcomed by consumer groups who see no justification for the wide disparity in European car prices, are condemned by the manufacturers as a misuse of the Commission's powers and an encroachment on the authority of governments.

Italy and the organization representing 12 EEC-based manufacturers are hoping to mobilize political and government opposition.

Mr Anthony Fraser, director of Britain's Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, said the draft rules were "ill conceived and damaging".

The society's view, which has received a sympathetic hearing from the Government, is that the survival of Britain's industry, including the commercial vehicle and component sectors, would be threatened.

The proposed regulations are the first attempt by the Commission at drawing up exemption for an industry's distribution agreements which otherwise would be deemed to be

anti-competitive under the terms of the Treaty of Rome.

They also come after the increase, particularly in Britain, of so-called parallel imports which manufacturers have tried hard to reduce.

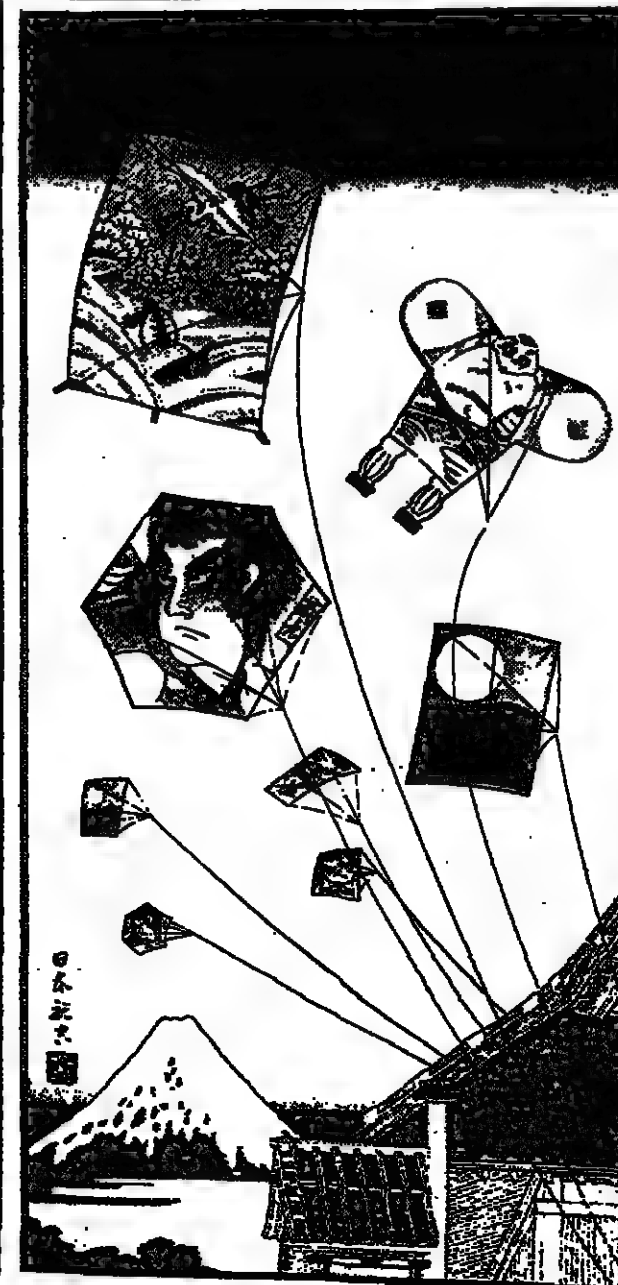
At one stage, when the pound was strong, right hand drive cars were available on the Continent for up to 30 per cent less than their British market price and this caused an outcry against alleged over-pricing by manufacturers in some markets.

But the industry says that the planned regulations will do little to improve consumer choice and could, in the longer term, be harmful to their interests as well as crippling to manufacturers' established franchised dealer networks.

The proposed legitimizing of distribution networks parallel to existing franchised operations would, says a joint statement, be a positive encouragement to windfall profits.

One of the key proposals from the Commission is that if prices in any country vary by 12 per cent or more compared with any other member country, manufacturers must then supply vehicles to any other dealer on demand.

There is concern in Britain that BL would suffer most and might be forced to abandon some low-price markets in the EEC. This, says the society, could allow Japanese and East European manufacturers to increase their market penetration.



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Analysts stress that the first-
quarter performance has been
a pointer to what is happening to
industrial activity.

but smaller job losses in the
manufacturing.

Jonathan Clare

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|-----------|---------------|-----|-----|------|-----|------|
| 6,710.000 | Gridhall | 110 | 0 | 8.6 | 7.8 | 9.3 |
| 496.4m | Hammerson 'A' | 730 | +25 | 18.6 | 2.5 | 38.0 |
| 110.8m | Hammerson 'B' | 410 | +12 | 11.3 | 2.8 | 20.2 |
| 25.4m | Kent M. P. | 98 | -1 | 1.6 | 5.0 | 12.6 |
| 118.0m | Latent Power | 200 | 0 | 7.3 | 3.8 | 21.9 |

...the ...

* Ex dividend. † Ex all. ‡ Forecast dividend. € Corrected price. ⅈ Interim payment passed. † Price at suspension. ‡ Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. § Bid for company. ¶ Pre-merger figures. ‡ Forecast earnings. § Ex capital distribution. † Ex rights. ‡ Ex scrip or share split. † Tax free. ‡ Price adjusted for late dealings. ... No significant data.

THE ARTS

Opera: Paul Griffiths compares Wagner in London and Cardiff, John Higgins reviews Marschner at Wexford

In search of literary parallels

The Valkyrie

Coliseum

For the second quadrant of *The Ring* the world turned on Saturday from Cardiff to London and became both more particular and more sophisticated. It did not, however, wholly alter. The nineteenth century will, so it seems, be as powerful in the background of David Pountney's production for English National Opera as in that of Göran Järvefelt for the Welsh. But, since Mr Pountney is the more literary man, in his version the references may be expected to be more specific.

Earlier productions by him have indicated a penchant for Victorian ladies in virginal white: here we have Siegmund as the Bride of Lammermoor and Fricka as Miss Havesham. Moreover the settings, designed by Maria Björnson, are striking transpositions of nineteenth-century scenes.

The first act takes place in the long gallery of a country house, with the ash tree thrusting up through the great staircase. For the Valhalla of the second act we move to the library, inevitably reminiscent of Jonathan Miller's *Magic Flute* even though the Enlightenment reading room of that production is replaced by a massive decor of black and bronze built around a giant globe in the floor.

It is quite properly a place of action and observation much more than

study, and no doubt will work well as such once this troublesome staging has grown out of such naughty caprices as a leatherette executive chair that squeaks to add to Wotan's worries, or a helmet for Brünnhilde that tips off and clanks timely to the floor.

Unless these accidents betray a deeper insecurity. It is around the middle of the second act that Mr Pountney's revivification of bookish characters begins to falter: there are, after all, few literary parallels for Wagner's Valkyries, and Brünnhilde's ghastly costumes - split skirts, thigh boots and winged helmet - are the first sign of malaise.

Very possibly Mr Pountney intends that the Valkyries en masse should be vulgar, and that the third act, set on a war memorial, should have an exaggerated pomposity quite at odds with the fragility and clear definition of emotions in the first. But he does retain his interest in the dialogues, and to make Brünnhilde so unprepossessing goes a long way towards vitiating her scenes with Wotan and with Siegmund.

Marie Hayward Segal stepped gamely into the breach caused by Linda Esther Gray's cold, and so it remains to be seen whether Miss Gray can make the production work.

Certainly it works for Josephine Barstow's Siegmund and Anthony Raffell's Wotan. Miss Barstow gives us the heroine as hysteric. At first she

is tight, hunched, much put upon; at the sound of Hunding's horn her hands fly guilty to her crotch. But then as Siegmund goes into his narration her excitement becomes uncontrollable: she smiles wildly, she mouths his words for him. And at the end of the first act she seizes the sword from him to whirl in triumph before lying down so that he can rapidly consummate their union to the orchestra's closing thump.

Alberto Remedios's Siegmund is bemused by all this but he seems to enjoy it: the voice, now having to be handled with care, still has that splendid radiance, and in his words over the sleeping Siegmund in the second act Mr Remedios finds a delicate, nakedly expressive head-tone that valuably expands his range.

Mr Raffell gives a decisive and likeable portrait of Wotan as ordinary bloke: doing his best, abundantly capable of affection, and tired. He takes up the spear and eye-patch of godhead only when he has to, and exultantly casts them off to clasp his daughter in farewell.

With Sarah Walker's fierce Fricka he is reasonable, with Willard White's Hunding reluctantly dismissive, as well he might be when Mr White has been so sure, incisive and commanding in the first act.

Mark Elder conducts a performance of impressive gravity, generally slow and large in its gestures, so that the production can, when it chooses, paint in the psychological detail.



The heroine as hysteric: Josephine Barstow's Siegmund with Alberto Remedios's radiant Wotan

opera. Mr Pimlott stages *Hans Heiling* in the overheated style of a Samuel Fuller B-movie where bedlam is never far away.

In this he is abetted by David Fielding, designer of the Coliseum's *Rienzi*, who appears to have equal contempt for the score where high-flown arias mingle with peasant dances. Pimlott, to stage a travesty of the opera.

For no obvious reason it has been updated by a century and a close poor Heiling is put in a straitjacket and cared off by attendant nurses, presumably to the madhouse. A few years ago a touring German company played Marschner's first success, *Der Lärm*, more as a spoof opera than a spook

more successfully, by Stephen Pimlott, takes the title role. Understandably, he looks uncertain about what is going on but the voice retains its bloom, especially in the middle register, and he has the right command for Heiling's declamatory scenes.

The vocal honours, though, went to Constance Cloward, an American noted on this page from Basle. Miss Cloward's soprano, glowing and fresh, is excellently suited to Marschner's music and she has the best number of the score, "Wehe mir", where Anna wanders through the woods and falls between the unceremonious Heiling and her human lover, Konrad. Eduardo Alvarez displayed a beefy tenor in that part, a bit

Attention to man as much as magic

The Rhinegold

New Theatre, Cardiff

So far, so good. Of the two British companies setting out on new *Rings* at the weekend, it fell to Welsh National Opera to play first, and to offer a *Rhinegold* on Friday that is straightforward and practical.

That, of course, is what a touring company needs. And, if there are to be any comparisons now that *The Valkyrie* has been presented at the Coliseum, they must take into account the fact that the WNO are working from a very much smaller stage, which in itself must impose caution with the spectacle and the magic, and closer attention on the people.

Göran Järvefelt has evidently recognized that. Speaking on this page last week, he mentioned that he had deliberately avoided seeing the Patrice Chéreau production, but his own solution to the task of making the *Ring* real is fundamentally similar: he mixes the mythological with the contemporary, and presents us with gods and goblins in a framework of nineteenth-century industry.

Since the opera was begun in the year after the Great Exhibition it is perhaps reasonable that it should seem to be unfolding within the Crystal Palace. At any rate, the milieu is one in which Wagner's music now appears as much at home as once it did on monumental discs that followed in the wake of Wieland Wagner's production.

The people of this *Rhinegold*, though, are not nineteenth-century characters, but only themselves. There is, to be sure, something Pre-Raphaelite about the flouncing, skipping Rhinemaidens in watery white and blue with their long, crinkled tresses, but then their scene, which loses most from the lack of epic space, hardly shows this production at its best.

The gods are the key characters here, and the designer, Carl Friedrich Oberle, has defined for them their own world by clothing, wigging and painting them entirely in cream and white. The effect could be of so many pastry cooks, but in fact the colour scheme acts

to bring out the luxury and bloodlessness of the inhabitants of Valhalla.

Wotan spends as much time lounging or staggering as he does standing bolt upright. His ravens - a pair are included in the second scene for those who would wish a natural *Ring* - look a bit ashamed of him, although they need feel no embarrassment for the performance of Philip Joll, who brings simple warmth, honesty, and at times a hedonistic softness to a Wotan who is never in command of anything. Patricia Payne's Fricka does not have to be a temptress; she can be more the comfortable bourgeoisie, preening herself when the orchestra embellishes Loge's praise of womankind.

Donner is powerfully sung by Donald Maxwell, and there is a sweet Froh from Richard Morton, who is rather oddly obliged by the production to play the ghost of Franz Liszt. Alberich is more happily shown as a scuttling sweep, his music projected with great force and poignancy by Nicholas Fowell. Loge, particularly in black and white, to indicate his kinship with both Wotan and Alberich, is sung with lofty amusement by Nigel Douglas, at once a clown and the subtlety of devils, besides being the only one on stage to make the most of Andrew Porter's translation.

There is also an attractive Freia from Anne Williams-King, whose appealingness makes it all the more strange that her companion gods should be more concerned with the gold than with her. The detail does not coincide with the music and it fits uneasily in a production which generally moves with the score rather than with any cast-in-view of it.

Mr Järvefelt has expressed himself as concerned in this *Rhinegold* with the elemental crime, and indeed he emphasizes that in his use of the Rhinemaidens at the end, dumbly imploring, while the gods step over their Japanese-style bridge. But here he merely, and admirably, points up what will make the rest of the *Ring* turn, as turn it surely will under the vigorous, white-hot direction of Richard Armstrong in the pit.

Hans Heiling

Wexford Festival

Wexford has had long training in mounting little-known operas by well-known composers, but this year the festival has opened with an unfamiliar work by a hardly familiar name: Heinrich Marschner's *Hans Heiling*. Outside Germany Marschner is not much more than an entry in the musical reference books as the man who bridged the gap in romantic opera between Weber and Wagner.

On the surface *Hans Heiling* walks in the footsteps of *Der Freischütz*, a story of everyday peasant folk whose lives are suddenly interrupted by the

supernatural. Indeed, Wexford's comprehensive and fascinating programme note points out that the subject was first offered to Mendelssohn, who turned it down as being too close to Weber. Even more important, though, is the name of the young chorus master who prepared the first performance of *Heiling* in Würzburg in 1833, Richard Wagner.

Heiling and Wagner's Flying Dutchman have much in common. Both are tormented creatures from another world - in Heiling's case the kingdom of the earth spirits - who try to break loose by seeking the love of a pure human female. The Dutchman's sortie led to tragedy, but Heiling does the right thing, gives up his pretty Anna

and returns from whence he came.

Or rather he should do. Wexford, having chosen a fascinating opera and engaged a highly experienced conductor, Albert Rosen, to show off a score where high-flown arias mingle with peasant dances, allows the producer, Stephen Pimlott, to stage a travesty of the opera.

For no obvious reason it has been updated by a century and a close poor Heiling is put in a straitjacket and cared off by attendant nurses, presumably to the madhouse. A few years ago a touring German company played Marschner's first success, *Der Lärm*, more as a spoof opera than a spook

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Dance

Swan Lake

Covent Garden

The public loves *Swan Lake*. Every performance at Covent Garden this season has been full and enthusiastically received. But those of us who have watched the company over the years must feel that the public is being short-changed, since none of those seen so far in the ballerina role has matched what used to be the expected standards.

There seems to be an attitude that any good dancer ought to be able to tackle almost any role. But there is an ideal physique, technique and personality for almost any part: a skilled dancer can usually get away with lacking one of those desirable qualities, but not two or even all three.

Fiona Chadwick, who danced the role for the first time on Friday, is an able soloist, and I admired tremendously the spirit she brought to the ballet, especially the way she hitched herself up to continue the famous *fouettés* in Act III each time they looked like coming adrift.

But there is something about the proportion of her legs, too short and muscular in the calves. I think that detracts from her line; her very flexible back is used without much capacity for expression (look at the Russians) to tell how expressive a back can be; and



Fiona Chadwick: spirited

her face does not convey much emotion either, even with so dramatic a Siegfried as Stephen Jeffries to provoke some response in her.

Without at least one first-rate Odette/Odile, would it be wise to drop the ballet for a time? Or should there be bolder attempts to find new talent? What is certain is that conservative methods, rewarding faithful service or picking a reliable dancer who will make no errors but will achieve nothing very individual, have been tried and have failed to overcome the problems brought about by past policies.

There is young talent there (a pool of balletomanes, I guess, would produce three names worth gambling on). What is needed is more courage in using it before the spirit of youthful adventure is crushed by waiting for Buggins's turn.

John Percival

Concert

Touch of supremacy

London Sinfonietta/Knuussen

Queen Elizabeth Hall

"There, I have said it. A masterpiece, by an American." Stravinsky's remark about Elliott Carter's Double Concerto of 1961 has acquired a patronizing ring over the years, as Carter has advanced from being an intriguing individualist to being indisputably a leader among challenging contemporary composers. But it came to mind after Friday night's magnificent account of the Concerto at the end of this fine seventy-fifth birthday concert for Carter.

For what this piece, and so many others of Carter's, achieves, for all the surface complexity of its working, is to grip you at once with the conviction that this is the work of a supremely intelligent mind and a supremely discriminating ear.

More than twenty years after it was written, one can perhaps question whether the writing for harpsichord (John Constable) is as good as that for the piano (Ian Brown) and the twin accompanying ensembles. But the counterpointing of rhythm and speed, the cyclical movement of the whole work, is conceived with brilliant subtlety. Oliver Knussen conducted a reading of animal strength and vigour which

also emphasized the purely colouristic effectiveness of the percussion and wind writing.

Earlier, a typically uncompromising Sinfonietta choice, wholly justified in the event, the programme had juxtaposed two of Carter's problematical song cycles. He sometimes seems less at home with word-setting than with abstract fantasy, but one could not have guessed so from this revelatory performance of *A Mirror on Which to Dwell*.

The Dutch soprano Lucia Meeuwse gave a fiercely focused, wholly confident account, achingly atmospheric in the fleeting vision "Insomnia", even if she sounded as if she was singing a foreign text. Carter's music was a wholly natural language for her. Martyn Hill's account of the recent Sinfonietta commission, *In Sleep*, in *Thunder*, had also grown in weightiness and confidence since its premiere, although the ensemble seemed here somewhat less assured.

The early *Eight Etudes* and a *Fantasy* for wind, aphorisms wittily dispatched, provided a perfect up-beat to the evening from such meticulous, quasi-minimalist essays with one note or one chord. Carter's latest burgeoning structures have sprung like an oak whose roots are sunk deep in the ground. A rare musicianship indeed: happy birthday, Mr Carter.

Nicholas Kenyon

Television

Accidental virtues

being shown on The South Bank Show (LWT) which was concerned with Yuri Lyubimov's *Crime and Punishment*. Although some of the play's effect is lost on television, where strobe lighting always brings back unfortunate memories of *Top of the Pops*, much remained - the music, which sounded like the scraping of a gigantic insect's legs, and the emaciated figure of Raskolnikov, who might have been sucked dry by just such an insect and spat out upon the stage.

Or perhaps Michael Pennington, who played the part, was simply exhausted by Mr Lyubimov. He is in the "action painting" school of direction, alternately grabbing and caressing the actors, spitting, and

generally jumping up and down. Despite the fact there was a translator in residence, it was quite clear that the actors did not have the faintest idea what he was talking about. It is a remarkable play, nevertheless, one of the few adaptations of a great novel which actually adds to its interpretation.

Clive James on Television (LWT) is described as a "new series", but it covered by now familiar territory - last night, a number of American quiz shows became the butt of Mr James's humour. This series works on the premise that bad television is also the most interesting, with the added advantage that we can all feel superior to the Americans as we watch. That must be the best audience was making so much noise, although I suspect that laughing gas was blown over it at intervals.

Peter Ackroyd

PUBLISHING

Booker Prize: whose freedom of choice?

The rules for this year's Booker McConnell Prize - they vary in detail from year to year - stipulate that no eligible novel shall qualify for the award unless its publisher undertakes "not to divulge the name of the winning author or book before the award is announced by the judges".

The judges, with or without the legal wigs they are portrayed as wearing in the drawing which is part of the press advertisement of the short list, will sit down on Wednesday afternoon to pick the winner. Presumably they will select one from the short list of six titles. I say "presumably" because the rules, whether by default or intent, do not state that the winning novel has to come from the short list.

Everybody seems to assume that either *Waterland* by Graham Swift or *Life and Times of Michael K* will triumph. It is also believed that neither novel is as outstanding as winners of the past few years. Thus, I would not altogether put it past Fay Weldon and her fellow arbiters to spring a surprise and declare as winner a book not short-listed. How cross the vested interests would be, what a fillip for the prize. Ladbroke's,

if not the punters, would be jubilant.

The judges have not yet decided which novel will win, although one judge has made it plain to at least one publisher that he knows. The title of the winning book will be announced before the dinner for the prize at Stationers' Hall which, at last year, will be televised live. That announcement will be made possibly minutes after the book has been chosen. How therefore, and to whom, could the publisher of the winning book divulge in advance the name of the winner - if the decision has not already been taken?

In my previous piece on the Booker I stated that two publishers - Jonathan Cape and Chatto & Windus - had entered more than the four books permitted by the rules. Like everyone else I gleaned this information from the *Book-seller*, the organ of the book trade, and taken to be authoritative in such matters. The week after the list appeared Philippa Harrison, editorial director of Michael Joseph, wrote an indignant letter to the *Book-seller* hinting, darkly, that her firm had entered more than

four books and why were they not all listed? Presumably she had been receiving flak from some of her authors.

If Cape and Chatto & Windus had each submitted the stipulated four titles, why did the *Book-seller* allow them to claim others which, no doubt, were called in by the judges? And why were books not similarly called in from other houses listed? When I asked Martyn Goff of the National Book League, which administers the prize, he denied responsibility for what was printed. But, if the list did not come from the NBL, where could it have come from?

The reason why these seemingly trivial matters are important is that the Booker is the only newsworthy literary award we have, and winning it is likely to transform an author's commercial future. It is like that Cape and Chatto & Windus have more potential Booker winners on their lists than other publishers: or it may not be. But it is surely invidious that publishers themselves should be obliged to select four titles - especially if in a year they publish twenty or thirty eligible novels - from their own lists. It would be interesting to

know if the judges have ever called in books which they achieved the short list or even won the prize. Publishers do not, by and large, take on fiction exclusively for literary reasons. An increasing number of manuscripts of literary novels, not least by authors with more past critical success than royalty cheques, are failing to find publishers. The Booker is, simply, the best full-length novel published between January 1 and November 30. Going by the list of titles submitted by the publishers this year, many have little idea of what literary excellence is.

I hope that next year the Booker management committee will, in the first instance, appoint a sub-committee of appropriate readers (fiction reviewers, perhaps) to draw up a long list of, say, fifty titles for the judges to consider. Publishers should then be informed of the books chosen. Martyn Goff says that he is "naïve enough to believe that publishers are keen enough to win to put in what they [emphasis added] think are their best books". That is precisely what worries.

E. J. Craddock

Theatre

The Duchess of Malfi

Playhouse, Oxford

Jane Howell's dangerously low-key, austere production of this difficult play lays it firmly on an axis of sexual politics - a very promising idea which, with a bolder treatment and stronger cast, could go far. Stephanie Fayerman's strikingly beautiful set, a dead-black Renaissance hall in narrowing perspective, is really a magnificent prison where the princely brothers of Calabria keep their widowed sister "caged up like a relic" against further temptation. In this male-dominated society, women's emotional interests

count for little against men's financial ones.

The Duchess's independence, then, in secretly marrying - and marrying such a social inferior as a steward - acquires a more than emotional significance. As she notices, sex-role reversal is involved; she has to propose to Antonio, not vice-versa, and foresees a day when husbands must beg their wives for a night's favours. And, by making her and the Duke twins, Webster allows the implication that they are naturally equal, but for sex.

The drawback, on this showing, is that it reduces life and colour in the brothers' roles, which alone can sustain the play's last five scenes after the Duchess's murder: the Duke

especially needs all the help he can get, with a grotesque mad scene to bring off. This is where casting is crucial. Paul Jesson never creates a commanding character, especially without the support of the usual crypto-incestuous interpretation, here, as the Cardinal, Richard Duden's special brand of baleful intensity never really comes through.

Michael Byrne's Bosola, too, is quietly played, Hamlet-like in observant detachment, resenting Antonio for rising without resort to crime but barely noticing his own degeneration until the strangled Duchess's brief recovery gives him a glimpse of release from guilt. That was thrillingly played, but rare; and in this matter-of-fact

world the characters' language lost much of its sparkle. Audibility was poor; with projection and clarity better suited to the tiny Bury St Edmunds theatre (next week's *Edmunds* theatre) many sentences lost the odd word or two. With Webster's terse, quirky style, that is usually fatal.

Witty and graceful in the early scenes, simple and almost serene under torture, Annabel Leventon's Duchess will take well to the smaller theatre too. Her final scene is also the supporting company's best: the lunatics' episode is eerily convincing, their acknowledged leader walking the Duchess in a stately dance, obsessed by court ritual even when his wits have gone.

Anthony Masters

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9.40 Strauss: Symphonie Domestica.
A performance by the BBC SO
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10.30 Jazz Today: with the Stan
Tracey Quartet. Presented by
Charles Fox.

11.15 News. Until 11.18.

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 Wogan.† 10.00 Sue Cook.† 12.00pm
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 Hunniford.† 2.02 Sports Desk. 2.30
 Steve Jones.† 3.02 Sports Desk. 4.00
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including 5.30 Newsweek, 6.05 Stepping Out
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1.00am, 5.00am

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WORLD SERVICE

TYNE TEES As London except:
 12.00 pm-13.00 News and
 Lookaround, 2.00 Film: Final
 Appointment (John Bentley), 3.00
 News, 4.15-4.45 Countryfile, 5.00
 News, 5.02 Sale of the Century, 6.30-
 7.00 Northern Life, 8.00-10.00 Magnum,
 10.32 Sneering, 11.00 News, 11.30
 News, 12.15 an Week of Prayer for World
 Peace, 12.20 Closesdown.

ULSTER As London except:

Radio 3

1:20pm-1:30 Lighthouse, 2:00 Film: Against a Crooked Sky, 3:30-4:00: Nature of Things, 5:15-5:45: Shockwaves, 5:50 Glenn Frey: Evening Uster, 6:30-7:00 Life's a Living, 7:30pm Glen to Glen, 11:00 Film Hit Street Blues, 11:55 News, Closesdown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 1:20pm-1:30 News, 2:00-3:30 Film: Checkpoint (Anthony Stead), 5:00 Scotland Today, 6:40 Crime Desk, 7:00-7:30 As Kings of the Hill, 8:00-8:30 The Late Late Show, 9:00 Soundbite, 11:00 Late Call, 11:05 Streets of San Francisco, 12:00 Closesdown.

SW As London except: 1:20pm-1:30 News, 2:00-3:30 Film: The Living End (Susan Sturges), 5:00 Scotland Today South West, 6:30 Televisions, 6:40-7:00 Money Matters, 8:00-10:00 News, 10:35 News, 10:50 News, 10:40 Film: Get Strike By (John Greenwood), 12:15 am Closesdown.

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**FINE ART SOCIETY 148 New Bond
St. W1, 01-493 5116 TRAVELS OF
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others. Mon-Fri 10-5, Sat 11-5, Sun
Thurs. 10-5, Sat 11-5 Closed Fri.

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EXHIBIT

Troops dig for survivors in Beirut devastation

Continued from page 1

He added: "But I think we should all recognize that these deeds make so evident the bestial nature of those who would assume power if they could have their way and drive us out of that area."

"But we must be determined more than ever that they cannot take over that vital and strategic area or, for that matter, any other part of the earth."

Appearing on the CBS television programme *Face the Nation* Mr Weinberger emphasized that the tragedy would not reduce the American commitment to bring peace to the Middle East and to "put Lebanon back on its feet as a nation."

He said the immediate task was to examine ways of making the Marines less vulnerable in the future.

He noted that the US retained a very large naval force in the region, including the carrier *Ranger* and the battleship *New Jersey*, which could be used to defend the Marines, as happened before the present cease-fire came into effect.

He would ensure that a large naval task force remains in the area, but he rejected suggestions that the number of troops on the ground should be increased.

The Marines, who came under attack were due to end their present tour of duty in Beirut next week. However the Marines who were due to replace them were diverted towards the Caribbean island of Grenada after the left-wing coup there.

The Pentagon would only say yesterday that the force was "somewhere in the Atlantic" and that its ultimate destination was the eastern Mediterranean. It was unclear whether the vessels were in the region of Grenada or heading across the Atlantic.

The deaths of so many American servicemen are bound to add fuel to the debate in America about whether the Marines should remain in Lebanon.

Until yesterday the death toll had stood at seven, mainly the result of shelling by leftist Muslim groups before the ceasefire came into effect or by sniper fire. For many Americans that toll was already too high.

Recent polls have shown that a majority of Americans believe that the US has no business to be in Lebanon and that the Marines should be pulled out.

CAMP LEJEUNE: Troops were ordered to leave Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, at 3pm yesterday to replace those killed in the terrorist attack in Lebanon, Major-General Al Gray said (AP reports).



Rescue workers searching for dead and wounded in the remains of the building which housed 110 French troops



A tearful Marine sheltering from the follow-up attacks

Headquarters destroyed

Continued from page 1

to arrange a bombing attack of such sophistication and on yesterday's scale.

A few seconds before 6.20 am, an American Marine guard at the back gate of the US compound facing the airport terminal buildings saw a large red lorry drive into the parking area on the other side of the iron fence and barred wire.

He tried to call the Marine command centre by field telephone - he had already lifted the phone off the hook - when the lorry suddenly accelerated in a tight turn and smashed into the gate. It broke its way through two more barricades, swerved round a third and then ploughed its way through the sandbagged entrance of the four-storey concrete building used by the Marines as a battalion base.

There was a large parking area beneath the building, and the driver detonated the explosives he had on board the moment he reached it.

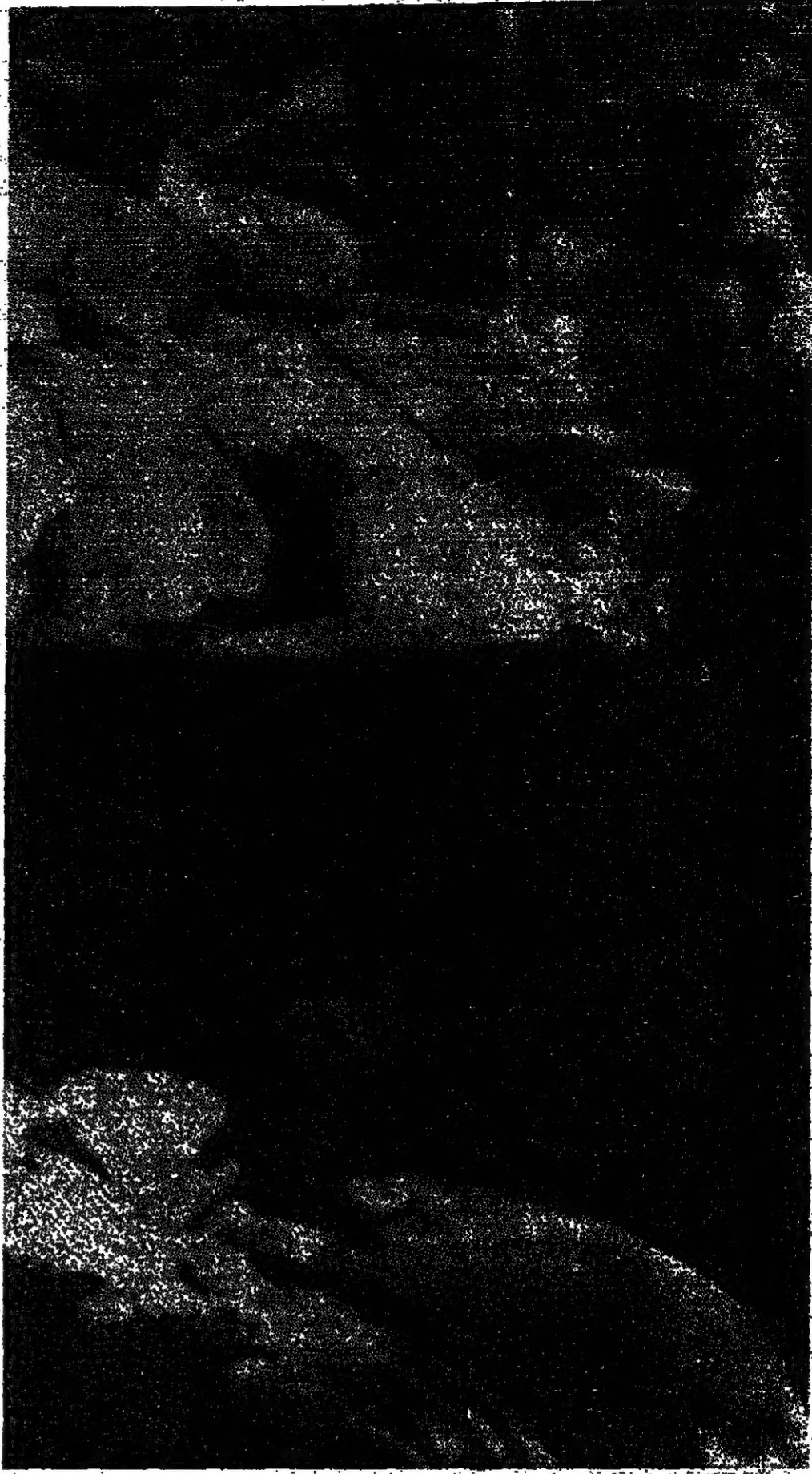
There were up to 200 Marines and naval ratings in the headquarters (a number had

helicoptered out of the ships the previous day so Marine officers had no exact figures), and all were about to get up for Sunday breakfast. Several cooks were already at work.

The massive explosion totally destroyed the building, crushing many, perhaps most, of those inside to death. The blast was so enormous that it was felt well over a mile away and left a crater beneath the ruins 20ft deep and 40ft wide.

As Marines from other positions ran towards the devastation and heard screams from those dying within the rubble, another truck was approaching the nine-storey French paratroop company headquarters to the north.

It pushed past flimsy barricades, apparently unchallenged by French guards, and drove at high speed towards an underground garage beneath the building. Then the driver, too, set off the explosives in his lorry - he would have heard the other bomb 20 seconds earlier - and blew the headquarters 20ft to the south and then brought it crashing down.



A French paratrooper comforts a friend trapped in rubble

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Grand President, presides at the opening of the twenty-second conference of the British Commonwealth Ex-Services League at Windsor Castle, 10.30; presides at the second session of the conference at the Holiday Inn, Slough, 2.30; and holds a reception at the Holiday Inn, 6.25.

The Prince and Princess of Wales attend a performance of *Hay Fever* at the Queen's Theatre in aid of the Leukaemia Research Fund and The

Princess of Wales's Charities Trust

Princess Anne attends the Hackney Horse Society's centenary dinner at the Saddlers' Hall, 7.20.

The Duke of Gloucester visits the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall, Twickenham, 10.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of Age Concern, attends the Vintage Years Celebration Luncheon at the Rainbow Rooms, Kensington High Street, W8, 12.30.

New exhibitions

Paintings by Martin Fuller, Raku by Roger Perkins, jewelry by Broom

O'Casey and prints and watercolours

by Anthony Gross, Oxford Gallery, 23 High Street Oxford, Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (from today until Nov 23).

Ben Nicholson: the years of experiment 1919-39, Royal Museum and Art Gallery, Canterbury, Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (until Nov 26).

One at a Time: Work of Graham Sutherland; Rosalie House, Roselle Park, Ave; Mon to Sat 11 to 5 (until Nov 19).

Prints by Bridget Riley, Museum and Art Gallery, Kirkcaldy, Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until Nov 13).

Paintings by J. Douglas and Y. Gray

The Cottage Gallery, Newcastle, Tyne; Mon to Sun 10 to 5 (until Nov 6).

Talks, Lectures

Victorian dress, by S. M. Brock, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 2.

Music

Concert by Carwood Piano Trio, Elmwood Hall, Belfast, 7.30.

Organ recital by Lionel Rogg, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.

Bond winners

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for Premium Bond prizes are: £100,000: 15AF 416116 (the winner comes from the West Midlands); £50,000: 45Z 109409 (Glasgow); £25,000: 9VK 864877 (Manchester).

National Day

Zambia celebrates its National Day today, the anniversary of its gaining independence on October 24, 1964. Less than a year before, Northern Rhodesia, as Zambia was called, had achieved self-government upon the dissolution of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. Zambia's multi-party Constitution was replaced in 1973 by one providing for a one-party state under the United National Independence Party.

Anniversaries

Birth: Sir Moses Haim Montefiore, philanthropist, Liphorn, Italy, 1784; Dame Sybil Thorne, actress, Lincolnshire, 1882; Deaths: Alessandro Scarlatti, Naples, 1755; Susan Lawrence, politician, London, 1947; Franz Lehár, Bad Ischl, Austria, 1948.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Prevention of Terrorism Bill, second reading. Lords (2.30): Data Protection Bill, report.

Brighton trains

Train services between London and the Sussex coast, affected by the railway guards' strike, were nearly back to normal from midnight last night. British Rail's Southern Region said.

Nature notes

Jays are foraging for acorns in gardens and hedges. They have just seen a lighter pink than they were in the summer. Great spotted woodpeckers also move into new territory, in search of hazel nuts and beechnut and even crab-apple pits. They have a single, sharp ringing call that can be heard a quarter of a mile away. Wood-pigeons cluster like a pale grey roof on the red-berried cotoneaster bushes. On sunny mornings, greenfinches call with their wheezy spring note.

At sunset, pheasants crow in answer to each other, and the call may be taken up across miles of countryside. Signs are increasing that it will be a colourful autumn, with the first frosts advancing the process. Linnet trees that are not already bare are very yellow, horse chestnuts are an ochreous yellow with many pink and crimson patches. Elm-leaves are bright yellow and green, beeches look brown or olive in different lights. Ash-trees are still resolutely green. Two poisonous toadstools are common now. Fly agaric in birchwoods, its scarlet cap speckled with white, and death-cap generally under beech trees, with a pale olive-green cap and its stalk growing out of a white cup.

Sites and science

Sites of Special Scientific Interest are explained simply and clearly in a 12-page booklet issued this month by the Nature Conservancy Council. The booklet will interest not only owners and occupiers of sites likely to be affected by the Government's powers and duties under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, but also those whose interest in the British countryside has stopped short of the peripatetic need to unravel the complexities of the two-year-old law. *SSSIs: What you should know about Sites of Special Scientific Interest* is free with s.s.c. (10p) from the NCC, Ashington Park, Shrewsbury SY4 4TW, or at NCC offices.

The pound

| | Bank | Buy | Sell |
|-----------------|---------|---------|------|
| Australia \$ | 1.70 | 1.62 | |
| Austria Sch | 26.45 | 26.85 | |
| Belgium Fr | 87.75 | 78.75 | |
| Denmark Kr | 11.85 | 11.83 | |
| Deutsche M | 14.58 | 13.88 | |
| Finland Mk | 8.77 | 8.37 | |
| France Fr | 12.17 | 11.67 | |
| Germany DM | 4.09 | 3.81 | |
| Greece Dr | 154.00 | 146.00 | |
| Hong Kong \$ | 11.85 | 11.28 | |
| Ireland Pt | 1.29 | 1.24 | |
| Italy Lira | 2435.00 | 2325.00 | |
| Japan Yen | 363.00 | 345.00 | |
| Netherlands Gld | 4.52 | 4.29 | |
| Norway Kr | 11.37 | 10.89 | |
| Portugal Esc | 195.00 | 184.00 | |
| South Africa Rd | 1.52 | 1.49 | |
| Spain Ptas | 230.75 | 222.75 | |
| Sweden Kr | 12.07 | 11.50 | |
| Switzerland Fr | 3.27 | 3.10 | |
| USA \$ | 1.54 | 1.49 | |
| Yugoslavia Dnr | 213.00 | 198.00 | |

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Retail Price Index: 339.5. London: The FT index closed down 1.2 on Friday at 689.8. New York: The Dow Jones industrial average closed down 2.64 on Friday at 1248.68.

Roads

London and South-east: A4200: Single lane, temporary signals on Epsom Road between Phoenix Road and Drimmonds Crescent.

A10: Lane closed northbound on Great Cambridge Road, Enfield.

A409: Lanes closed on Magpie Hill Road, Stannett, at junction with The Cammerley. One carriageway shared between junctions 10 (Walsall) and 11 (Cannock).

North: A69: Lanes closed South-west Bridge, Tyne and Wear. A523: Diversion N of Macleodfield, Cheshire. A66: Temporary lights at North Bitts to Great Bridge, co Durham.

Wales and West: A394: Diversion on Higher Market Street, Penarth, Cardiff. A487: Temporary lights at Tal-y-llyn, Gwynedd.

M4: Westbound carriageway closed between junctions 20 (Almondsbury) and 21 (Severn Bridge).

South-east: A74: Westbound carriageway shared on London Road, Glasgow, seek alternative routes.

A90: One carriageway shared at Forth Road Bridge, Edinburgh.

A72: Single lane, temporary lights W of A705 junction at Peebles.

Information supplied by the AA.

The papers

The Observer yesterday, while cautioning that the High Court ruling on the British Telecom privatisation dispute must not be seen as a green light for unions to disrupt Government plans, argued that the union was not presented to frustrate Parliament's wishes but was motivated by union members' concern over pay and conditions.

The most realistic strategy for unions, the newspaper said, was now to negotiate in good faith on the new private ownership to safeguard their members' interests and to ensure greater efficiency.

The anti-nuclear demonstrations were seen by The Sunday Times as the "last great gasp of a campaign which has clearly failed".

Cruise-missiles firmly in place, the Sunday Times said, the European Union balance was in equilibrium, and there was no alternative to large negotiated reductions on both sides.

The Sunday Telegraph concluded that the deployment of "Cruise" missiles would calm a little bit of the Soviet Union's greatest postwar propaganda campaign and form the basis for serious negotiations to replace the past few months of "shadow-boxing".

Discussing Mr Harold Macmillan's recent television interview and his remark that a little bit of inflation was a good thing, The Mail on Sunday disagreed, supporting the Government's present stance, but it wished it could argue the case with as much charm as the aged Supreme still presents his shadow-boxing.

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Weather forecast

An anticyclone to W of Ireland will move E towards central England

6am to midnight

London, East Angles, Central S, SW England, E Midlands: Fog patches at first, sunny periods later; wind NE, light or moderate; max temp 11 or 12C (52 or 54F).

SE England, Channel Islands: Cloudy, a little rain in places, becoming dry with sunny periods; wind NE, light or moderate; max temp 12 or 13C (54 or 55F).

E, NW, Central N, NE England, W Midlands, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow: Morning frost, fog patches, dry roads by places; sunny periods later; wind variable, N, light; max temp 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

Firth, Argyll, N Ireland: Dry intervals, frost and fog patches at first; wind W, light or moderate; max temp 10C (50F).

NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Bright intervals but cloudy with drizzle in places on W coasts and hills; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 10C (50F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Wednesday: Mainly dry, sunny intervals, overnight frost, fog patches at first; a little rain in NW. Becoming milder later.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E), Wind NE, moderate or fresh; sea slight or moderate. St George's Channel, Wind N or NE, sea slight, Irish Sea: Wind variable, light; sea smooth.

Sun rises: 6.59am Sun sets: 4.50pm

Moon rises: 6.25am Moon sets: 6.15pm

Last quarter October 22.

Lighting-up time

London 5.20 pm to 6.11 am. 17C (63F) last night. Sun 6.15 pm to 6.59 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 6.59 pm to 7.43 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 7.43 pm to 8.27 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 8.27 pm to 9.11 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 9.11 pm to 9.55 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 9.55 pm to 10.39 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 10.39 pm to 11.23 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 11.23 pm to 12.07 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 12.07 pm to 12.51 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 12.51 pm to 1.35 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 1.35 pm to 2.19 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 2.19 pm to 3.03 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 3.03 pm to 3.47 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 3.47 pm to 4.31 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 4.31 pm to 5.15 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 5.15 pm to 6.00 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 6.00 pm to 6.44 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 6.44 pm to 7.28 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 7.28 pm to 8.12 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 8.12 pm to 8.56 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 8.56 pm to 9.40 pm. 17C (63F) today. Sun 9.40 pm to 10.24 pm. 17C (63F) today. 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